Applications up over last year

By MICHELLE SIEWERT
Staff Writer

Niagara College is becoming a popular place.

Niagara College President John Saso said student applications to the college are up 15 per cent over last year at this time.

He said he believes Canada's weak economy and the local economic situation is one reason why applications are soaring.

"Jobs have dried- up."

Mr. Saso said students are more interested in getting an education now because they see how hard it is to get a job when they are not trained.

"The province is experiencing a phenomenal increase in the number of applications for college enrolment in September 1991," he said. "Although Niagara College does not have the actual provincial increase, our college is experiencing a 14 per cent or 15 per cent increase, which leads us to believe that a number of our programs will be oversubscribed this year and students should be advised to apply to alternate programs as soon as possible," the college president said.

John Parrett, college registrar, said he finds the situation encouraging. "I suspect we will have the largest post-secondary enrolment this year in the college's history."

Mr. Parrett agrees the enrolment jump is because of the current economic recession. "When employment is down, more people go to school and stay in school," he said.

NIAGARA COLLEGE
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NIAGARA NEWS

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April 19, 1991
16 pages

Deficit expected to climb

By DOUG MORTON
Staff Writer

Niagara College's effort to expand will pay off with a new consolidated St. Catharines campus and increased provincial funding "but will add about another $1 million" next year to the current $1.4 million deficit, David Bessey, chairman of the college's Board of Governors, said.

"While other colleges are cutting, we've made the decision to build the new St. Catharines campus," Mr. Bessey said.

The new campus is expected to put all St. Catharines operations on one site. The Welland and Niagara Falls campuses will remain but with undetermined changes.

"The project is now in the planning development phase," Mr. Bessey said.

"We are trying to finalize plans for the basic make up of the new facility. We are going through a process to identify which programs the new facility will house."

The new campus project is "the largest program undertaken in 10 years" by the college and has created a great feeling of enthusiasm, Bernard Baril, vice-chairman of the Board of Governors and chairman of the executive committee, said.

As well as the new campus, another return from the college's investment in expansion will be a larger share of provincial funding, he said.

The college receives about 85 per cent of its operating capital through a provincial government subsidy. However, the bottom line is enrolment numbers: the more students the college has, the more money it receives.

Because the funding scheme pays a certain amount per student and that amount varies according to college location, type of program and cost of program "we plan to specialize," Mr. Bessey said.

"If the programs we choose

Continued on Page 16

Patient OK

Ambulance and Emergency Care program students conduct a casualty simulation as part of Niagara College's April 7 open house. See story Page 2. Photo by Michelle Siewert

Costs up for student centre

By SHERI HAMILTON
Staff Writer

The cost of the student centre continues to climb. The figure is estimated at more than $1 million.

"Estimates were considerably less than what we had anticipated when it came to prices for the kitchen equipment, furnishings for the centre and much more," Lou Dimattio, assistant to the director of student services, said.

Construction of the student centre, which began last September, is expected to be completed next month. An official opening date has not been set yet, although the centre will be in use before September.

The original cost of the centre, named After Hours, was estimated at $800,000. It is being funded totally by the students.

"The student centre is a dream," Lou said. "It is student driven and funded."

"I can't wait for the centre to open and hopefully the students will be happy with the centre and will feel free to use it after classes," Shane Forsyth, 21, newly-acclaimed Student Administrative Council president, said.

"I have positive feelings about the student centre," Karl Anselstetter, 22, the newly-elected executive vice-president of the Student Administrative Council, said. "I think it is the best thing that has happened to Niagara College in a long time," said the broadcasting radio and television student.

Included in the new building will be the Student Administrative Council offices, an office manager's area and various other facilities that college students can use.

"When things get going, we would like to have chess and euchre tournaments and other activities that will encourage stu-

Continued on Page 16

Inside the News

Final edition

The Niagara News is going to bed. This is our final edition of the school year. We wish our readers a great summer holiday. See you in September.

College deficit

College President John Saso discusses deficit. See Page 3.

New Campus

Possible sites for new campus narrowed down to two choices. See Page 5.

College feasts

College officials entertain MP at seafood feast. See Page 5.

Grads report

Graduate students give presentations at technical report night. See Page 6.

Dental update

Reinstatement of Dental Hygiene program possible. See Page 6.

Environment

Earth Now! committee needs volunteers. See Page 6.

Mature students

Enrolment levels of mature students at the college continues to grow. See Pages 3, 7 and 12.

Early retirement

College employees offered early retirement package. See page 7.

Sugar Babies

Burlesque musical described as "raw." See Page 8.

Staff committee

Professional development committee formed to encourage staff unity. See Page 9.

Law and Security

Private investigator teaches course at college. See Page 10.

Job search

Summer employment found at Student Employment Centres. See Page 16.

Sunny day causes drop in attendance at open house

BY MICHELLE SIEWERT
Staff Writer

It was too beautiful outdoors to be indoors at Niagara College's open house.

That was the concensus among college officials concerning the college's April 7 open house. It was a beautiful sunny day with temperatures above 15 Celcius.

"I think attendance was down from previous years. Probably due to the beautiful weather," John Parrett, college registrar, said.

John Saso, college president, said he thought the day went well. "I was impressed by the staff, who put a lot of work into it. I congratulate them."

"There were a lot more people here last year," Donna Flutur, Student Administrative Council office manager, said.

Despite the smaller numbers, the open house was described as "successful."

As potential students wandered around inside the various the college buildings, getting a feel for the place, parents asked coordinators questions regarding programs and met with faculty.

Many people enjoyed the entertainment provided outside, which included a barbecue put on by the Student Administrative Council, performances by the Sunburst Steel Band of St. Catharines and the music performed by The Lost Souls.

The Ambulance and Emergency Care program staged informative casualty simulations, which attracted a large audience.

The Niagara College Sailing School, part of Continuing Education, displayed a new SHARK 24 sailboat.

Shirley Tomovic, development officer, answered questions and gave information about the new sailing programs."We hope to have a lot of people register with us."

The Law and Security program had many visitors. "We had an excellent turnout, " Rob Tyminski, a second-year student of the program, said.

Broadcasting, radio and television students gave informative tours through the studios. The second-year students edited films upstairs while demonstrations were given in the television studios.

Although not as many people as expected attended the open house, college staff attempted to be as helpful as possible to the visitors.

"People seemed interested in the Student Administrative Council and the new student centre, " Cory Abt, Student Administrative Council president, said.

The Caribbean beat of the Sunburst Steel Band highlighted Niagara College's open house April 7. The band's lead singer, Lisa Weldon, 22, a second-year education and special needs student, sang Bob Marley's "Three Little Birds". She was accompanied by Adam Bowslaugh, 5, of St. Catharines, Ont. The 16-member band was started in 1980 by a group of West Indian and Canadian musicians who knew each other through the Trinidad and Tobago Cultural Association and Folk Art clubs. Elizabeth Weldon, the band's manager, is director of management information services at the college. The band's captain, Trevor Walcott, joined the band in 1983. Mr. Walcott was born in Barbados. He is also Versa Food's representative for the college. Versa supplies the college with food for the cafeterias and vending machines. Photo by Diana Harris

Defence training course May 1

A free 10-week training course sponsored by the Niagara Regional Sexual Assault Centre begins Wednesday, May 1 at 5017 Victoria Ave., Niagara Falls from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. To register or for more information, please telephone Cheri Huys at 356-6222.

Meanwhile, the Niagara Regional Sexual Assault Centre is also sponsoring a Wen-Do self-defence course for women to be held at Holy Cross Secondary School in St. Catharines April 22 to May 7. The Wen-Do courses will cost adults $50 and students and seniors $40.

Standing room only for business students at information night

By DIANA HARRIS
Staff Writer

Four hundred prospective students attended the Business Division information night held April 8 in the Hamilton Room at Niagara College

Nelson Lacroix, co-ordinator of human resources was the main speaker for the evening. He presented a video on student life at the college, produced by Niagara College media students.

Two other faculty members also spoke including Anderson Ferguson, director of the business division, and David Schleich, vice-president of academics. Mr. Schleich gave a speech via a video presentation.

Three Niagara College students gave speeches about their time at Niagara College. Sherry O'Brien, 21, a graduating student in information systems and computer programming; Collette Valliear, 30, a student in human resources; and Bill Powell, 20, a second-year marketing and management student.

Bill is vice-president of finance for the Student Administrative Council.

He was surprised by the turnout. "There was standing room only," he said.

Bill said he is not worried about the recession because he believes there are jobs out there. "You just have to dig for them."

The evening's co-ordinator, Debbie Gilmore, first-year business administration co-ordinator, said she was pleased with the attendance because it was higher than last year's.

"Now," she said, "is a good time to be attending a school. Students should not be discouraged because of the present recession...it will eventually come to an end. A student should try to be persistent, self-confident and adapt to the times. They should also try to be creative when it comes to their co-op placements."

Mrs. Gilmore said the business division faculty put in a lot of time not only for the imformation night but also for the open house held at the college the day before.

"Without them," she said, "the two events would not have been such a success."

Clara Casucci-McLeod co-ordinator of the accounting department, said she was "surprised at the number of mature students that attended the information night.

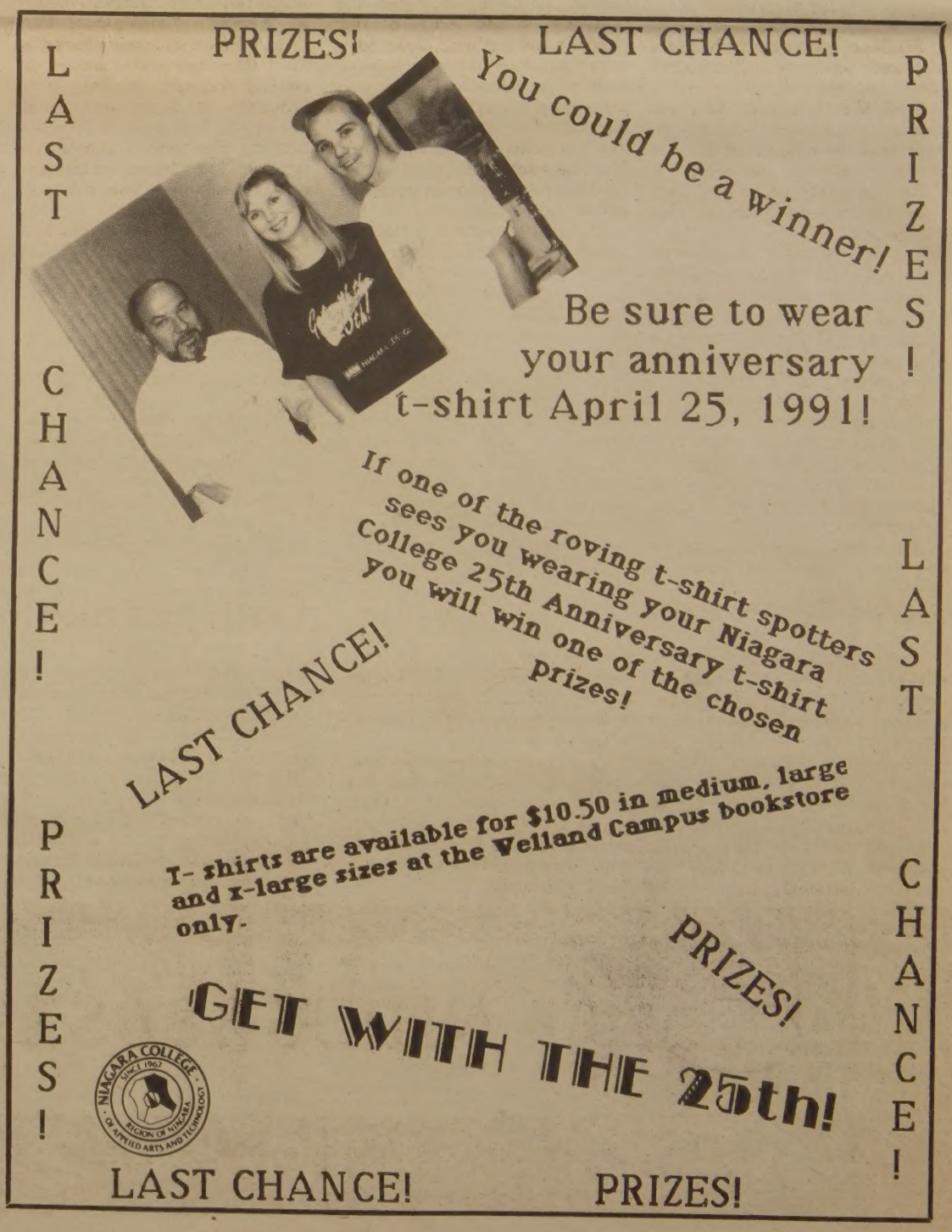
"They made up 75 per cent of the attendance for the accounting department," she said.

Mrs. Casucci-McLeod said she feels the reason for the high turnout of mature students may be recession-related.

"They (the mature students) seemed to be interested in the two-year accounting program as opposed to the three-year management/accounting program probably because they have been in the workforce and don't feel they need to take the extra year," she said.

Throughout the evening students had the opportunity to ask questions of the nine business division co-ordinators.

Refreshments were available in the Hamilton Room's foyer.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If one of the roving t-shirt spotters sees you wearing your Niagara College 25th Anniversary t-shirt you will win one of the chosen prizes!
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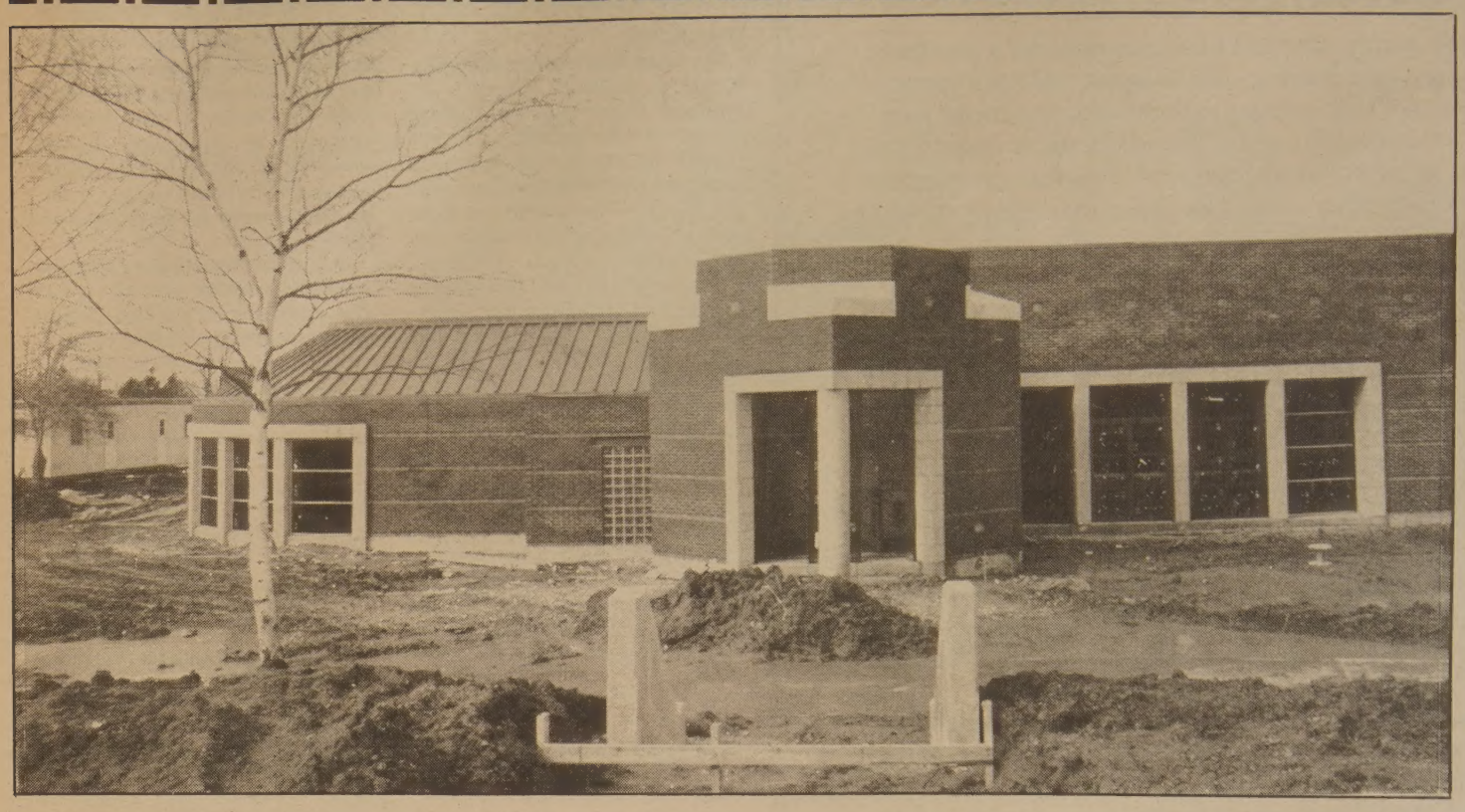
PRIZES! LAST CHANCE!

Page 3



Construction of After Hours, the college's student centre, is nearly completed. The 7,900-square-foot building is expected to open in June. The building's total cost, including furnishings, is estimated at more than $1 million. See story page 1.

Photo by Doug Morton

Deficit, smoking discussed

By MICHELLE SIEWERT
Staff Writer

Niagara College President John Saso said reducing the college's projected $1.4 million deficit will not come from the college's operating money.

Despite the deficit, he said there will be no job layoffs. "We are going to avoid layoffs at all costs, that is my commitment to you," Mr. Saso told last week's meeting of the college council.

Although giving no precise details on how the deficit will be reduced, he stated: "We have a plan that in four years the college will be in the clear. It's a locked in method to getting to our goal."

Mr. Saso touched on a wide range of issues during the college council meeting.

Asked about the smoking issue, he replied: "I'm beginning to lean to look towards an area where people can smoke."

A properly ventilated area is being looked at and "it won't be out in the middle of nowhere," he said. "By September of this year, a new initiative will be in place on this issue."

Meanwhile, Terry Mason, of the general education sub-committee, emphasized the importance of general education. "The employers out there are indicating that they want to hire people with more than just vocational training. They also want them to have a general education."

Many of the college council members agreed general education "is important" in obtaining a well-rounded education.

"General education involves more than just general electives. They are just a small component," Neil McGregor, director of human services, said.

David Schleich, vice-president of academics, agreed. He voiced his concerns about the importance general education holds in preparing students for careers. "Many students are prepared (upon graduation) for general-level entries, but not necessarily careers."

Meanwhile, Mr. Saso said the implementation of the employee assistance program at the college "is an excellent, excellent idea." He said a "full gamut" of assistance and counselling would be available, ranging from substance abuse to retirement planning.

Mature students going back to college

By SANDRA GOLDEN
Staff Writer

Students returning to Niagara College in September will see more older students.

Sandi Martin, a counselling and test administrator at Niagara College, said the amount of mature students entering the college is "very definitely going up." She said the average age is also increasing.

"This is affected by different things like plant closures, layoffs, or career changes," said Sandi, who has worked at the college for 12 years. "We had to double up our testing time since last Christmas."

She said "older students usually do very well."

In the first year of computer programming, the four oldest students in the class have the highest marks. They are all over 35 years old.

Betty Belzner of Welland is married with five children, Rachel, 18; John, 16; Ryan, 13; Matthew, 9 and Amy, 8. Her children and husband, John have been supportive of her decision to return to school. Betty was previously a registered nurse's assistant but spent the last few years at home with her family. At first she wanted to apply for some medical training so she could improve her nursing skills but nothing was available in Welland so she took a night course in computer fundamentals. She did well in the course and decided to attend college full time. Her marks are averaging around 90 per cent.

"I wanted to do something. I was fed up with just being a homemaker and with computers I decided that I would be one step ahead of my kids," Betty said.

Dale Caldwell of Niagara Falls is a single mother of a daughter, Rachel, 14. Dale goes to college full time and received over 90 per cent in the first semester.

Dale entered the college on the suggestion of an organization called Women's Employment Services Project, an agency based in St. Catharines and operated in conjunction with the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services and the Niagara Region. She took a general interest test and found her interest was in computers. Dale will soon be finished with her current weekend job at retail sales and will start doing a computerized accounting for a construction company. She does peer tutoring at the college nine hours a week. She takes a stress management course on Thursday nights. The course is a general elective for her fourth term.

"It helps put things in perspective," she said. "When a stressful situation presents itself, you know how to turn it around."

Barry Brown of Welland returned to school when he was injured on his job as a truck driver. His doctor recommended he try a different line of work.

Barry had previously worked in the computer business for years so he decided on computer programming. He is doing well; in fact he is on the honor roll.

Some people coming to the college must be tested to make sure they have the equivalent of Grade 12. If a student has their Grade 12, a test is not necessary unless the student has been out of school for a long time.

"The students I see are the ones without a Grade 12," said Sandi. "It is a good idea for people returning to take college prep courses."

The college preparation courses are available at night and are listed in the continuing education booklet, which is available in Hennepin Hall.

"If mature students are prepared academically," said Sandi, "they will do very well because they are motivated."

Part-time jobs available

Applications are being accepted for part-time jobs at the student centre for the fall. Applications can be obtained from Donna Flutur, the Student Administrative Council office manager. "We want students to be aware of the positions while they are still in school," she said.

There are many unspecified positions available including kitchen and bartending help. Hours and working schedules have not yet been determined. If you have any questions, contact the Student Administrative Council office.

Applications are being accepted until Aug. 1. The Student Administrative Council is planning on having positions filled and training completed in time for the official opening of the student centre this summer.

College student Miss Niagara finalist

A Niagara College student is a contestant for the Miss Niagara Pageant in May.

Sandra Parten, 20, a second-year health and science student, just "wanted the opportunity to represent Niagara peninsula," she said. "I thought it would be good because I feel like I'm a good role model for younger people, for my peers and for people my own age."

Sandra is one of the 12 finalists in the pageant. The winner will be selected May 11. The talent show and the interviews have already been completed. Sandra, a Niagara Falls native, did a soliloquy, "a singing, talking, theatre song," from the broadway musical City Lights.

"We don't know who won the talent (competition) yet; we don't find out until a couple of days before the final pageant," she said.

Sandra has done some modelling, been a movie extra and gone to New York City for an interview with a talent agency for a soap opera job. "That was very exciting," she said.

Sandra said she faces "stiff" competition. "I hope to win."

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Editorials

Gamble worth taking

This year's new-look administration has embarked on a positive but risky long-term journey in dealing with Niagara College's future.

It is positive because top college administrators have said repeatedly the key to the future is growth, and the point is not lost in rhetoric. With new administrative staff, new program proposals, new student facilities and many other new plans for college expansion, the point is proven.

In addition, the new direction is guided by an equally new attitude of communication — communication with the community, business and industry and within the college itself. College President John Saso has spoken to more than 35 community organizations.

The journey is risky because growth is expensive, and this year's expansion plans have seen the operating debt of the college increase to $1.4 million, up $1.1 million from $298,000 last spring. In other words, the administration is gambling its growth plans will work regardless of the cost and, with a planned deficit, has projected a balanced budget in four years.

The college could have taken the nasty alternate path to solving its debt: the $1.4 million could be eliminated quickly with a snip here and a snip there using the dreaded budget scissors. The college has said no to program cuts and staff reductions.

The deficit has been blamed largely on a lack of provincial funding, which is determined by total college enrolment levels. With 85 per cent of the college's money coming from the province, the grassroots reason for the current growth plan is to attract and to keep students. The plan must be maintained.

Debt leaves the college on shaky ground with an unpredictable future, but we've all experienced the result of non-spending — recession.

It is hoped the growth-blitz gamble pays off.

Doug Morton

Neglecting environment

Earth Day is April 22, a reminder our earth is shared by all. If we don't care for our planet now, the consequences will be catastrophic.

The earth is warming itself at an alarming rate, due to humanity's negligence, selfishness and cruelty.

Acid rain is destroying plant life, waterways, lakes and wildlife.

Chlorofluorocarbons, methane gas and sulfur dioxide are polluting the atmosphere and eroding the ozone layer, thus causing what is known as "The Greenhouse Effect" — merely a glorified term meaning self-destruction.

The Persian Gulf War, which was totally avoidable and unnecessary, created an environmental holocaust. While U.S. President George Bush and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein were playing war games, millions of gallons of crude oil were being released into the gulf, destroying human life, animal life and the earth's ecology.

Plastics and chemicals are being needlessly produced in order for us to further indulge in our over-materialistic lifestyles.

People are destroying the environment, with little respect for the fact our resources such as clean air and water are not unlimited.

At Niagara College, the situation isn't much better. Sadly, few people here are concerned about the production of waste and our means of disposing of it.

Although recycling seems to be gaining momentum, there are few means of safely disposing of all the recycled materials. The problem lies in the products themselves . . . with many of them being overpackaged.

Ignoring the redundant cries for self-preservation is not the means to an end. With Earth Day in mind, everyone should simply remember to REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE.

Michelle Siewert

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Letters to the Editor

Campuses bridge gap

Dear Editor:

We wish to send greetings to Niagara College campus in Welland from Niagara College campus in St. Catharines. Even though we are in different communities and locations, we read the Niagara News with the same interest, and also share a common goal — graduating.

We may be a little different in academic instructions, but we are similar in our school spirit. We come from all walks of life, and have practically every nationality here, at Niagara College, St. Catharines campus, which is unique. Some of us are learning trade courses. For example, I am taking machine shop. Ontario Basic Skills program helps those who have found Canada their home to read and write our language.

We also have a library and cafeteria which all can use to our benefit. Our student body is well represented with class representatives, and a president to form our government body. The staff here, like those at the Welland campus, is dedicated in the teaching of young minds, mould and shape, to direct us into trained adults ready for the Canadian labor market.

Our paper, the Niagara News, is quite informative and also gives the students in the journalism program an opportunity to practice his or her skills and exercise his or her potential.

We look forward to each publication and I hope this letter will build a bridge between our campuses and students. It is hoped that your readers among our fellow campuses will share what they are doing, and what their campus is like.

Gary W. Morningstar
Machine Shop
St. Catharines Campus

Thanks from Red Cross

Dear Editor:

As another academic year is coming to a close, I wish to thank the Niagara News for its support of the Welland Branch of the Canadian Red Cross Society. Your coverage of our blood donor clinics and other activities such as Red Cross month and international. programs has been factual and positive.

Our annual blood donor clinic at the college exceeded its quota, to a large degree because of your publicity and Student Administrative Council's sponsorship. We are looking forward to conducting another successful clinic in November 1991.

Please express our thanks to your editorial staff and to the many students and staff who donated blood.

Joyce Noren
Chair, public relations
Canadian Red Cross Society
Welland

Open house 'successful'

Dear Editor:

It is difficult to personally thank every person who assisted with the open house held on April 7; however, through the Niagara News, I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to college staff and students for their cooperative efforts which made this year's event successful.

The extra work by staff and students in creating the displays and activities to promote their programs and services was commendable. Thank you!

Foster Zanutto, Director,
Marketing and Communications

Student opposes decision

Dear Editor:

I am against the decision passed down from our incompetent Provincial Government on the removal of the Oath of Allegiance to the Queen. Sure Canada is a grown up country and we do not need to depend on Britain for anything, BUT, do not forget our past! The Government of Ontario is trying to hammer more nails in Canada's coffin by eliminating something from our past.

If our future is so bleak as some people say, at least we have a proud past and now they are tampering with that as well. I am also disgusted at the fact that all of this was brought about by an Oriental woman, who will become Metro Toronto's new police executive, refused to swear allegiance to the Queen. What I say to that is if you want to live in Canada, you must adjust to the country instead of the country adjusting to you!

I hope the opposition to this decision grows extensively to tell someone that our heritage is more important than anything. When I am sworn in as a police officer in a few years, I hope the Oath to the Queen is re-instated.

Mike May
First-year Law and Security

Mack book to be updated

Dear Editor:

The Mack Alumni Association of the Mack Schools of Nursing (1874-1974) is updating its present address book which lists every Mack graduate by their year and name at graduation and their present surname and address.

The Mack alumni is historically famous as the members are graduates of the first nursing school established in Canada under the Nightingale system.

This letter is an appeal to any Mack graduate who has never received an alumni newsletter and especially to the members of the classes of 1970, 1971-A, 1971-B, 1972, 1973 and 1974 to provide the information needed to complete our files. Please send us your update so that you will be recorded for posterity to: Eleanor M. Snider, Reg. N., Mack Alumni Historian, P.O. Box 132, Fonthill, Ont. L0S 1E0.

Bullpit

Smoking a 'filthy habit'

By ARMANDO BARBARITO
Staff Writer

Smoking in my opinion is a filthy habit. I should know, I smoke. Lately, there has been a lot of criticism aimed at smokers — and rightly so.

A small minority of smokers at Niagara College are continuously smoking in areas where it is prohibited. These smokers have helped in tarnishing the image of the law-abiding smokers who have respected the smoke-free policy of the college.

Regardless of the generalizations of some non-smokers, there are smokers who not only respect the laws concerning smoking, but also try to respect the wishes of non-smokers by butting-out in public areas such as restaurants and movie theatres. In fact, there is a large majority of smokers who ask before they light up in areas where smoking is questionable.

Many non-smokers believe smoking is a filthy habit. What I have come to realize is that non-smokers are in no position to criticize. There are many non-smokers with habits that could surprise you. Non-smokers have their filthy habits under the rug, smokers just admit to their habit by smoking in public.

By compromising, I believe that a suitable solution to the problem will be found. We have all paid to come here to better ourselves, to deliver ourselves from the clinging claws of ignornance.

It is the ignorant who believe there is only one side to a story. It is the arrogant who impose their beliefs on others.

To the non-smokers who continue to preach to smokers to end their filthy habit, they should consider this question. Where is the fine line between sharing your ideas, beliefs and philosophies as in contrast to psychotically imposing them?

I wonder . . .

Focus

Dan Patterson (left to right), vice-president of community ventures, Thomas Norton, president of the Association of Canadian Community Colleges, Hugo Bessems, international student adviser, Gaston Thompson of the Department of External Affairs and International Trade in Ottawa, his wife, and John Saso, Niagara College president, are about to help themselves at last week's Seafood Extravaganza at the Victoria Park Restaurant in Niagara Falls.

Photo by Mark Powley

Seafood fest 'exceptional'

By MARK POWLEY
Staff Writer

Throw in 350 pounds of lobster, one MP, and a handful of Niagara College students from various programs and you have the ingredients for the third annual Seafood Extravaganza sponsored by Niagara College.

Victoria Park Restaurant--overlooking Niagara Falls--played host to approximately 315 guests last Friday. The event was held to raise funds for the college's Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls.

A wide variety of imported seafood was prepared over a two-day period by 12 cooks and one executive chef, Gabriel Fabi, of the Victoria Park Restaurant.

"We had a full house tonight," he said. "It's special. We offered a variety of seafood, all at one seating."

Foundation members helped "conceive" the notion of the student foundation to help raise "badly needed" funds for the college's Hospitality and Tourism Centre, John Saso, Niagara College president, said.

"It's grown by leaps and bounds," Mr. Saso said.

Foster Zanutto, marketing and communications director at the college served as the master of ceremonies for the evening. Among those in attendance were Joe McCaffery, St. Catharines mayor; Gaston Thompson, head of hospitality services office of protocol for the federal Department of External Affairs and Internal Trade; Mike Duffy, general manager of Niagara Region Development Corporation and Thomas Norton, president of the Association of Canadian Community Colleges.

"Exceptional food, excellent turnout," Hugo Bessems, international student adviser for the college, said.

"It gets people together, they're in a generous mood and it helps the college," Gib Parrent, Welland-Thorold Liberal MPP, said.

In the buffet room eight Pacific salmon, stuffed lobster, baked crisp squid and other seafood delicacies were surrounded by a huge caldron of Spanish paellae; a mixture of rice, shrimp, green onions and vegetables.

"Excellent dinner and good variety," Mark Slovak, an instructor at the Hospitality and Tourism Centre, said.

To enhance the seafood theme, dessert included a crusty fish topped with a miniature chocolate anchor and fresh colorful fruit.

All students from the Hospitality and Tourism and Hotel Restaurant programs plus students from the Law and Security program volunteered to serve the food.

"We (Niagara College) really have attracted additional training and partnership businesses," Dan Patterson, vice-president of community ventures, said, referring to the fact that the college will send representatives from the Venture Portfolio to meet with Mr. Thompson in Ottawa.

"I think the peninsula was waiting for Niagara College to set up a Ventures operation," Mr. Saso said.

"Everything ran smoothly," Chris Wilson, second-year hotel restaurant student, said.

Mr. Patterson, vice-president of community ventures, was the winner of a case of wine donated from a Niagara region wine firm. Other Niagara area wine companies donated to the dinner.

Bullpit

Students' problems never end

By MARK NESBITT
Staff Writer

I am sick and tired about hearing how sick and tired everyone here is. This school should be renamed Whinagara College. There's no parking. We have to go outside to smoke. We get too much homework. We're bored. The list goes on and on.

This is not supposed to be Club Med. Every student here pays about 10 percent of what it actually costs to educate them. Every activity, every club and every purchase made at this college is subsidized by all levels of government. But we all seem so wrapped up in our "we have a right to..." movement, that we tend to forget that responsibilities are attached to those rights.

You do not have the right to a parking space. Take the bus to school for a few days and find out how the other half lives. Better still, take a bus from another city to Welland and find out the wonders of 12-hour days at school.

You do not have the right to an indoor smoking area. Once May arrives, most smokers congregate outside and an indoor area would be deserted on warm days.

You do not have the right to Ontario Student Assistance Plan money. The program was designed to help students in genuine financial need, and not as a supplement to party money, or vacation funds.

You do have a responsiblity to your fellow students to think before you make inane comments such as "that's not fair." Some of us are here as a career move, others to get an education, still others to make our parents happy.

If you really can't stand this college, there are numerous other institutions begging for students. I would suspect, however, that conditions elsewhere are about the same as those here at Niagara College.

It's locker cleaning time

Attention all students! Do you have any unwanted paraphernalia in your locker? If so, now is the time to get rid of it.

All lockers must be cleaned out by Friday, May 17. If lockers are not cleaned by then, Niagara College will cut off the locks and remove the contents of the locker. The contents of the locker are put in bags and the college will hold these bags for a minimum of two months.

"After a couple of months, the bags are discarded and we donate the books to the bookstore," said Linda Maidens, building operations supervisor. "We (the college) are not responsible for any missing articles."

Many students don't lock their lockers completely and therefore things get stolen, Ms Maidens said. "The college is not responsible for these thefts."

Corrections

In the April 5 (Vol. 21 No. 15) edition, a headline stated Carol Boettcher was a faculty member. She is vice-president of student life and human services. Also, Vahid Amini, 24, is a first-year student in the Health Sciences Preparatory Options program.

Bingo bug bites teachers

Two hundred people raised $800 for the international student scholarship fund at a bingo game in Niagara Falls last week.

The bingo game was held at the Golden Nugget Bingo Hall on Lundy's Lane. Several Niagara College faculty wore their college T-shirts while helping out with the game.

"It was very busy but interesting. We enjoyed ourselves, it was a success," Jennie Griffiths, an English instructor and scholarship fund committee member, said last week.

"We were 'baptized by fire' meaning none of the college faculty knew how to run a bingo game but they learnt quickly in half an hour," she said.

"More money might have been raised," said Mrs. Griffiths, "but there was a $50,000 bingo game being held in Fort Erie that night and it drew part of the crowd away."

Gary Webb, director of the English as a Second Language program, said there was a good cross-section of faculty (from the college) who participated in the operating of the bingo game.

"It was also interesting and fun, a good way to raise money. The people at the bingo hall were kind," Mr. Webb said. "They taught us how to run the game."

Niagara College T-shirts worn by the faculty were left behind at the bingo hall for the people who worked there to wear.

Another bingo game is being planned for the fall of 1991, Mrs. Griffiths said.

Two possible sites for new campus

By DOUG MORTON
Staff Writer

Niagara College officials have narrowed the location for a new St. Catharines campus down to two sites, the Niagara News has learned.

"Two sites have been isolated as having potential," Ivar Noren, director of the college's applied arts division and chairman of the Board of Governor's ad hoc property committee, said.

"In the last week or so two sites have come to the forefront," David Bessey, chairman of the Board of Governors and also member of the property committee, said.

Mr. Bessey said the City of St. Catharines and an unnamed private land owner, the two owners of the potential campus sites, "are willing to work with the college to facilitate the donation of their land." He said "it is too early to make a decision, but the privately-owned lot has strings attached."

"We haven't had an official meeting with St. Catharines council yet, but we have spoken to city officials," said Mr. Noren adding, the college's property committee "is still fishing for land" even though the two potential properties look good.

Mr. Bessey said he was "pleased" with the latest development in the college's effort to unify the St. Catharines Campuses. "We should be gearing our thinking toward these two parcels."

Plans for building sizes and programs at the new campus are not yet determined because of the pending land decision, "but are part of a masterplan over about 20 years for the college that will require outside expertise."

Let's party

The Student Administrative Council is presenting its annual year end bash at the Rose Villa Tavern in Welland and all students are invited.

Live bands, comedians and a disc jockey will provide the entertainment, which begins at 8 p.m.

A Beatles tribute band, Beatlemania, and an INXS cover band, Kick, will provide live music, with comedians from Yuk Yuk's doing short sets throughout the evening.

Tickets cost $7 in advance and $8 at the door. Tickets are available at the Student Administrative Council office.

Technical report night successful

By CATHY WATT
Staff Writer

The 1991 technical report night on April 11 was "an outstanding success," said Trevor Burns, one of the three presenters and chairman of the Niagara College student branch of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers.

Over 75 guests attended the event at the Welland campus that began with a symposium and dinner in the staff dining room in Black Walnut building.

Three students in their final year of the Computer, Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technology programs, volunteered to present their technical reports in the Hamilton Room. Students pay for all materials to construct the prototypes of their projects and spend approximately 200 hours preparing their reports.

Trevor, an electronics engineering technology student, presented his report on a digital knot meter, which is a speedometer for sailboats.

Terry Richard, a computer engineering technology student, demonstrated a programmable TTL IC tester. "It tests the operation of small computer chips used in conjunction with other chips. The tester could be used in student labs," he said.

Trevor Burns, chairman of the college's student branch of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, greets Chen Zhenzhong, president of Yeuyang University in China.
Photo by Robert Finlay

John Toulmin, a computer engineering technology student, demonstrated flight simulation software. John said he enjoyed giving the presentation. "It's challenging, but rewarding. I had fun doing it."

Niagara College President John Saso welcomed three Chinese delegates from Yeuyang University in Hunan who are visiting until April 28 through a Canada-China College Linkage Program. Chen Zhenzhong, president of the university, Qin Jianlai, technical director, and Gao Biyun, city education commissioner and deputy mayor of the city of Yeuyang are here to study the technical programs of the college.

Sun Ning, a professor of computer science at Changsha University in Hunan, also attended.

Hugo Bessems, international student adviser for Niagara, welcomed the guests from two international projects. He said technical report night is "an annual event" and he appreciates the "hard work and effort students put into it."

Other guests included members of the Hamilton section of the IEEE, local high school technical directors, and Niagara College staff and students.

Ken Peacock, educational chairman and Mike Wiseman, vice-chairman and program director of the Hamilton section of the IEEE, have attended the event for several years.

"We see students mature and develop oratorical skills . . . they grow in capability and responsibility," Mr. Wiseman said.

Former graduates and presenters at technical report night came to enjoy the evening.

Roger Yurkiw, a 1986 graduate who works in project management at Digital Equipment of Canada, Burlington, said "doing a technical report is a good learning experience."

Tom Earle presented his report in 1985. He works in Toronto for Westinghouse Automation. "Doing my presentation helped me get a job," he said.

Philip Scoones, branch counsellor and adviser of the student branch of the IEEE, awarded certificates to the presenters, and to Trevor for his outstanding leadership as chairman of the student branch.

Mr. Scoones said presenting a technical report helps students learn to organize their work. "They get the opportunity to meet engineers — the students call it networking."

Trevor presented a plaque to Mr. Scoones as "counsellor par excellence" in recognition of his work with students.

David Hogan, secretary of the student branch of the IEEE, was master of ceremonies, and Ryan Hanlin, a first-year electronics engineering technology student, assisted the presenters.

David presented a basket of flowers to Diane Mercier, secretary of the technology division, for her contribution to the organization of technical report night. Mrs. Mercier was pleased with the number of guests who attended and said she is "very proud of the students."

Trevor said he was honored to be involved in organizing the evening. "We (the students) owe a lot to the staff of the technology department for all their help — they are outstanding."

Earth Now requires help for recycling

By MICHELLE SIEWERT
Staff Writer

Earth Now, a college environmental group, has been neglected since its inception.

"I am not pleased with the lack of participation," Linda Maidens, building operations supervisor and acting co-ordinator of the club, said.

She said although the recycling program is "working," there just haven't been enough people helping out around the college.

Ms. Maidens said she has received several calls from people at the college saying their blue bins are full, but she says nobody wants to do anything about it. "I can't do it all alone."

She said she would like to see more efficiency in making the blue bin recycling program work. The college purchased the blue bins for the recycling program, but help is now needed, especially on Friday mornings when recycling comes for pick up. "We (the college) put out a ton of fine paper (to be recycled) a week," she said.

The solution to the problem, Ms. Maidens said, is more involvement by everyone.

She said it should be mandatory for students and staff to participate in the group's efforts, and that input is needed from different fields.

She said Earth Now should have a "firmer grasp" on the issue by September.

The environmental club has applied for grants, but that is "a long, slow process," Ms. Maidens said. "All should be concerned about the environment."

Students and staff interested in joining Earth Now should contact Ms. Maidens at ext. 417.

BE A REGULAR BLOOD DONOR

Dental Hygiene program may return

By MARK POWLEY
Staff Writer

Becoming "more personal" is the new approach to raise funds for the possible reinstatement of the Dental Hygiene program at Niagara College, Esther Dockman, secretary to the college's Board of Directors of the Niagara College Foundation, said.

The campaign is being conducted in the Niagara region and surrounding areas. If successful, the program could be reinstated at the college by Sept. 1, 1991.

So far the drive has reached about 33 per cent of its $233,000 objective, or about $77,584.

A task force, made up of three dentists and one dental consultant, is conducting "a professional to professional" (telephone campaign) outside the area in an effort to raise more funds.

For each of the first seven weeks of the campaign, about $10,000 was contributed by dental assistants and dental hygienists in the area. However, campaign organizers are concerned contributions may begin to drop.

"Campaigns always slowdown," Mrs. Dockman said.

"We have not yet received all the monies pledged," Dr. Jim Jeffs, a Fonthill dentist and a driving force behind the campaign, said. The fundraising task force was organized by Dr. Jeffs. The task force is now sending "a personal mailing" to people who have made a pledge.

Niagara dental hygienists and dental assistants have contributed 87 per cent of the total dollars, Dr. Jeffs, the task force chairman, said.

Both Mrs. Dockman and Dr. Jeffs are confident the objective can be reached. The money must be raised by Sept. 1, 1991.

"It's been extremely successful," said Dr. Jeffs, referring to the campaign so far. "But we still have a way to go."

Previously, Dr. Jeffs described the fundraising as "a team effort."

If reinstated, the program will provide eight new units for an anticipated 44 dental hygienists at the Welland campus, until moving sometime in the future to the St. Catharines campus.

The program was suspended in 1988 for financial reasons.

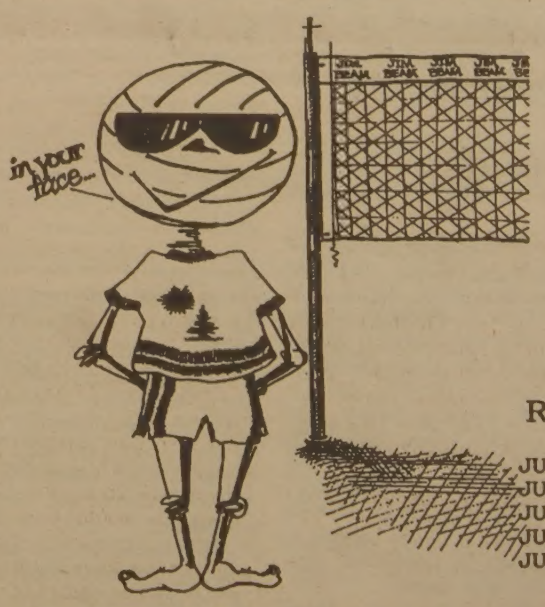
Donation for security

The Law and Security Administration program at Niagara College recently received a donation for $1,150 for its participation in last month's annual Welland Minor Hockey Association tournament held in Welland, Port Colborne and Pelham.

The money will be used for different additions to the program, Richard Gage, an instructor in the program said.

One suggestion was constructing a judge's bench with a plaque on the front of it with all the student's names who helped at the event. About 40 law and security students participated in the weekend tournament.

Their duties included taking money from the admission gate, making sure people did not enter without paying and making sure security measures were followed.



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Yolande Bissonnette (left) presents the spirit award to Rosemary DeCaria (centre) and Fort Erie Secondary School mascot Fesster (Ellie Finch). Photo by Joel Naphin

The contest winners include (left to right) Nancy Truong, Yixin Zhang, Kellie Emberley, Sandra Marotta, Karen Poth, Susan Elisen and Lynn Killins (seated). Absent are Scott Morrison and Karen Ishida. Photo by Joel Naphin

Fastest fingers battle a high-spirited contest

By JOEL NAPHIN
Staff Writer

It was a battle of fast fingers and accuracy for several Niagara residents last Saturday.

About 60 people participated in the third annual Fastest Fingers in the Peninsula typing contest sponsored by the St. Catharines Business Machines and the office administration programs of Niagara College.

Yolande Bissonnette, coordinator of the office administration programs, said it was "the best turnout" the contest has had in its three years.

"Next year we're hoping for about 100 people. The contest is a very worthwhile event that promotes not only keyboarding as an executive skill but also promotes the Office Aministration programs," she said.

In the Grade nine and 10 category, first place went to Scott Morrison of St.Catharines Collegiate Institute and Vocational School, while second and third place went to Nancy Truong and Yixin Zhang, both of Fort Erie Secondary School.

In the Grade 11 and 12 category, Sandra Marotta of Eastdale High School, Welland, captured first place while Kellie Emberley and Lynn Killins, both of Beamsville District Secondary School, placed second and third.

In the post-secondary and general public category, Karen Ishida of Fort Erie, won first place. Susan Elisen, a first-year health records technician student at Niagara College, placed second and Karen Poth, a first-year office administration executive student, placed third.

For the first time, contest organizers presented a spirit award for the area high school with the most participants. Fort Erie Secondary School became the first recipient of this award.

Rosemary DeCaria, a keyboarding teacher at the high school, had 19 of her students participate in the contest.

Mrs. Bissonnette thanked "all who helped in the preparation of this event. It's a team effort and that's what makes it a success."

Mrs. Bissonnette also thanked St. Catharines Business Machines, McGraw-Hill Ryerson Ltd., Prentice-Hall Canada Ltd., and Radio Shack on Main Street East in Welland for donating the prizes.

Single parent successful in coping with college

By DIANA HARRIS
Staff Writer

More mature students and single parents are returning to school. The figures are evident at Niagara College. The reasons are varied.

Some students are separated or divorced. Some feel they need a post-secondary education to increase their chances of finding a better paying job. Others are seeking to upgrade their education after a layoff from a job in hopes of securing better employment.

Dianna Hayslip of Stevensville, 33, a single parent with four children is graduating this month from the three-year Business Administration/Accounting program at Niagara College.

"Returning to school was something I always wanted to do," Dianna said.

But, she had doubts about being with younger students.

During her first term at Niagara College, Dianna almost quit school because she felt alienated and ridiculed by the younger students.

"I asked myself, why am I here? I have nothing in common with these younger students. I have since changed my attitude towards them and I give them credit for choosing this route (college). They are now a major and supportive part of my life."

Dianna, who spoke to a class of prospective business students at an information night at the college last week, said, "If a person wants something (schooling) badly enough, he or she should be persistent and do it."

When interviewed, Dianna had two job interviews, one for a chartered accountant's office, the other with the Ontario Ministry of Labor.

Dianna chose the three-year business program because she had worked as the bookkeeper for a family business for eight years, and didn't want to waste her experience as a bookkeeper.

"Also, accounting is a family trait," said Dianna. "It was a natural thing (take the program) for me to do."

Dianna's first year at Niagara was "extra stressful" and as a result there were many times when she almost fell asleep driving home from school. When she arrived home, Dianna had to try and juggle her time between her responsibilities to her children and doing her homework.

"After the children went to bed I used to stay up until at least 1 a.m. doing my homework," she said.

Dianna said her children have benefited from her return to school. She said they have gained a broader perspective of what schooling can do for a person and as a result "they no longer want to be truck drivers but fly to the moon."

She said her children now take more pride in what they do and this is evident in their improved grades.

"I shared my immediate goals with my children and they saw that I was able to accomplish those goals," Dianna said.

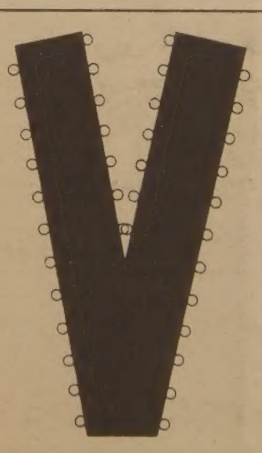
Dianna's goal for the immediate future, after finding a job, is to work towards becoming a certified general accountant.

She is currently looking into "distance education" at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ont. Distance education is similar to a correspondence course: students receive their lecture notes over the telephone and also receive videos in the mail.

Dianna is not worried about the current recession because she said accountants are more or less "recession proof."

"Accountants are always needed and usually more during times of a recession when money is 'tight'," Dianna said.

Ciara Casucci-McLeod, coordinator of the accounting program, said, "Dianna is a very good student and I am going to miss her."



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Early retirement incentive offered to employees of college

By DOUG MORTON
Staff Writer

An early retirement offer which could affect as many as half of all full-time Niagara College employees has been approved by the Board of Governors.

The early incentive leaving plan, available only during a five-week period ending May 17, offers up to eight months salary in either a lump sum or monthly instalments to employees who have worked at the college a minimum 10 years and were full-time employees as of April 8.

"Approximately one-half of the full-time staff, a little over 200, could meet the criteria," Glenn Pervere, director of human resources, said.

Employees within 12 months of normal retirement are not eligible. Applicants whose jobs won't be replaced will be considered first; however, applicants whose jobs will be replaced must show cost savings to their departments to become eligible.

The payout package for employees with a minimum 10 years of full-time employment is 3½ months' full pay while the maximum payout is eight months' full pay for those with more than 19 years at the college.

"Almost all 23 Ontario colleges have an early retirement plan. There's nothing unique about it," Mr. Pervere, who has been at the college over 20 years, said.

Benefits would end for successful applicants who accept the lump-sum package but would continue until the end of the payout period for those who accept the monthly payments. Employees over 55 can retain benefit coverage but must pay their own premiums.

"I'll be interested to see who takes advantage of the early retirement opportunity," Joan Hastings-Dove, an English instructor and president of Local 242 of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union, said. "The timing is interesting."

The Board of Governors must approve all applications, and they will review the plan next year.

While offering employees a chance to leave early, the plan "could mean some dollar savings" for the college, Mr. Pervere said, adding, "there's no ulterior motive behind the plan."

"I suppose teachers will be thinking about it right now, but they'll want pension issues resolved first," Mrs. Hastings-Dove, of Grimsby, said.

Entertainment

Artist at work

Scott Leggett, of Buffalo, N.Y., uses a chainsaw to carve a large piece of ice marking the silver anniversary of the opening of the Rainbow Bridge in Niagara Falls. His efforts were part of the Hot Food Competition held last Saturday at the college's Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls. Mr. Leggett began his sculptures early Saturday morning.

Photo by Armando Barbarito

Musical skits offend women of the '90s

By KATHERINE TOWNE
Staff Writer

Brock Centre for the Arts introduces Sugar Babies. Timing, sex, dancing and jokes describe the rawness of the musical.

Talk about timing. John Berst led the orchestra in the Garden City Production, Sugar Babies. Every drum roll to a joke, every beat to a misguided foot was perfect. Watching the orchestra was the highlight of this burlesque musical.

Sugar Babies may offend women of the '90s. Most of the sexist jokes can stay back in the 1920s where they belong.

On the lighter side, the dancing was good. The female lead, Lissa Bondio, took the stage with her vibrant personality and excellent tap dancing.

Jimmy Cooper, the male lead, was timely, witty and charming — at times.

There are 18 cast members who added their special talents to the musical.

It may be a sign of the economic times, but set designer Ken Garrett did not go all out for this performance. The set consisted of simple boxes, a door and a white sheet used as a back-drop.

Review

Jonathan Crawford, a cast member, spent some of his time acting as a candy salesman. He walked in the theatre's aisles and joked with the actors on stage. Mr. Crawford had a booming voice that would take the audience by surprise when they thought he wasn't around. He never left the audience without a few hearty laughs.

Sugar Babies is a simple, lighthearted spoof of a musical that is not for everyone, but may be worthy for a laugh.

Sugar Babies continues until Saturday. Tickets cost $15 for adults and $13.50 for students and seniors.

'Good turnout' expected

Rain or shine, Tanguay Place, 675 Tanguay Ave., Welland, is sponsoring its third annual Marathon of Wheels Sunday, May 26 at 9 a.m.

Participants can walk, run, wheel or bicycle the nine-kilometre route.

"The event will help the physically challenged residents of Tanguay Place raise funds for a bus equipped to handle wheelchairs," Leon Lowry, a resident of Tanguay Place, said.

"At Tanguay Place, there are 12 people that live there," he said. "Eight or nine of them will be involved in the marathon."

Last year, Mr. Lowry raised $1,200 "and would like to go for $1,400 this year."

Hé said he is hopeful of a "good turnout" for the event. Organizers are expecting Welland MPP Peter Kormos to attend.

Tanguay Place will also have a barbecue with hamburgers and hotdogs for participants.

Pledge sheets are available at Tanguay Place, CHOW radio in Welland, Welland Chamber of Commerce and from Niagara College English instructor Mike Collins at Room S114, Ext. 77.

More information can be obtained by telephoning Tanguay Place at 788-1455.

Stephen King enjoys 'Fear'

By SANDRA GOLDEN
Staff Writer

The first thing that attracts the eye to the book on the shelf in the bookstore is its colorful cover and a belt of paper attached to it, with a recommendation by Stephen King saying, "If you've never read FEAR, I urge you to do so."

How can any fan of Stephen King resist such an invitation? FEAR, which was released in 1940 has been released again by Bridge Publications Inc. It is written by the late L. Ron Hubbard.

The story starts when Professor Lowry, a teacher at a small-town university, has one of his works published in a magazine about his thoughts on demons and superstitions. When his outlandish ideas reach the president of the university, he is told his services will no longer be needed after the end of the school year.

Professor Lowry visits a friend to seek some comfort and after he leaves his friend's house discovers he's lost four hours in his life.

Professor Lowry is obsessed with finding out what happened to the missing hours in his life. The events following bring him horror that he has never imagined.

The horror is relentless until the ending which is sure to shock even the most hardened horror fan.

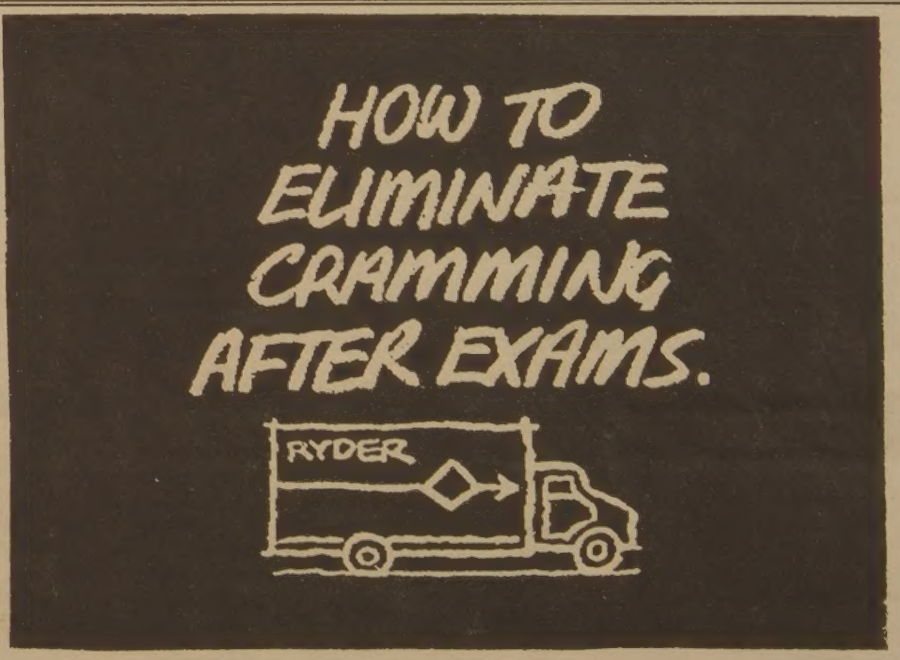
There is a forward by the author saying the most terrifying part of the story is that it is quite possible. Any one of us could lose an hour or so in our life.

This is a highly recommended book for those who are brave enough to read it. It is a book which demands to be read in one sitting; it is so hard to put down.

It is also recommended to read the book during the daylight hours.

FEAR is available at Coles book store in the bestseller hardcover section. It is priced at $19.95.

Book Review



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Professional development aids staff

By MICHELLE SIEWERT
Staff Writer

Niagara College is broadening its horizons.

The formation of a professional development advisory committee gives the college staff the opportunity to get to know one another, learn about different aspects of education and better themselves physically and psychologically.

"We're in education and we just don't do very well training our staff," John Saso, college president, said. "Professional development will give the college a chance to do just that."

"There's a lot happening on the professional development front," said Beatrice Clark, the chairman of the new committee, which was formed in December.

The committee has six subcommittees.

The recreation committee, for example, is responsible for establishing staff activities such as tennis and volleyball tournaments, walks at lunchtime and scavenger hunts.

"We want to encourage people to get together and have fun," said Mrs. Clark.

The first annual Niagara Day, hosted by the college president, will be August 27 and includes a welcome back breakfast and barbecue for staff members from all college campuses.

The recognition committee was formed to consider ways to recognize the staff's achievements. "We need to acknowledge the efforts of the staff," said Mrs. Clark.

The other committees are each meeting to develop and schedule workshops in June which will be held at all campuses.

"Staff will be invited to participate in the workshops of their choice," Mrs. Clark said.

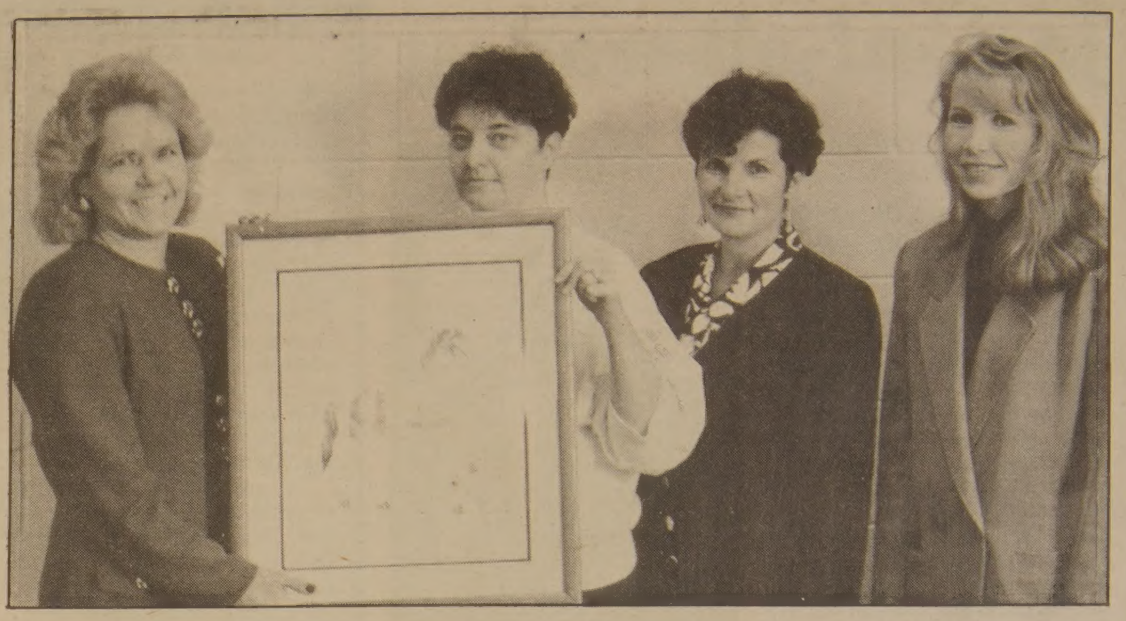
Workshops will cover all aspects of the educational system, everything from teaching, learning and stress management to developing computer skills and self-esteem.

The position of professional development advisory committee co-ordinator will be posted this month. The co-ordinator will work full time on professional development with the aid of support staff.

Although Mr. Saso said money from the college's budget would go toward professional development next year, he did not indicate how much.

Mr. Saso said professional development is "very important" to the college.

"We want to be the best professional development group in the province. We want other educational institutions to get interested in what we've done with professional development," he said.



Beatrice Clark, chairman of the professional development committee at Niagara College, (left), presents a print by Nestor Komar, a business instructor of the college, to the winners of the professional development logo contest Pat Knechtel, a college employee, Sue Tallon, and Shirley Tomovic, development officers at the college.
Photo by Mark Denis

Blossom fest on May 4

Niagara College's Media Centre and students of the Broadcasting-Radio-Television and Film program in co-operation with the Niagara Promotion Association will provide live television coverage of the 32nd Annual Blossom Festival Parade, Saturday, May 4 from Niagara Falls, Ont.

The Blossom Parade will be broadcast live from Queen Victoria Park in Niagara Falls at 10:15 a.m. using Telesat Canada's Anik D1 and Anik C2 satellites; the Niagara Region will see the parade on Channel 10, MacLean-Hunter Cable Television.

The Niagara College Media Department has provided taped and live coverage, in co-operation with MacLean-Hunter for the past 16 years. Last year the parade was seen in more than 36 Canadian and American cities from British Columbia to Newfoundland to Newport News, Va.

Stu Black, an instructor in the Broadcasting-Radio-Television and Film program, and Elaine MacDonald, a graduate of the program working at CKEY in Toronto, will do the commentary for the parade.

NIAGARA COLLEGE SINCE 1967 OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY REGION OF NIAGARA

Board of Governors

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April 18, 1991.

To the College Community:

On behalf of the Board of Governors, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all graduating students on the successful completion of your programs at Niagara College and to wish you well in your future endeavours. We hope that you will return to your Alma Mater frequently to renew friendships as an Alumni member, to participate on advisory committees, and even to take further courses and seminars with us.

Our congratulations also go out to the undergraduates as you complete this year of study. We look forward to your return to the College in September to work towards your graduation.

The Board also wishes to extend sincere appreciation to the faculty, administrative and support staffs for helping us to successfully complete the year. The extra efforts of our employees working together have made it possible for the College to serve its many clients well.

Thank you all and best wishes for a pleasant summer.

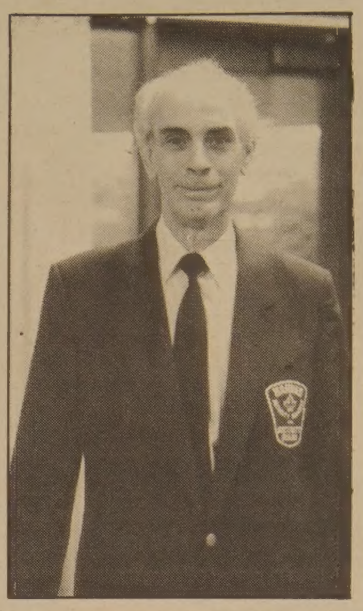
Sincerely yours,

David W. Bessey

David W. Bessey,
Chair,
Board of Governors.

New security guard jack-of-all-trades

By CAROL KERSTEMAN
Staff Writer



PETER HAWKINS

Barnes Security Services of Hamilton is in charge of security at Niagara College.

Peter Hawkins, 59, of Princess Anne Circle in St. Catharines, started working security at the college March 18. He will work until a decision is made on tendering the security contract.

Mr. Hawkins is from Devon, England. He arrived in Canada in September 1990 with his wife, Barbara.

He has not encountered any serious security problems since starting at the college. He said smoking "is the bone of contention" here. His duties include general safety, fire hazard safety, and keeping a peaceful environment in the library. He completed a mandatory security training course through Barnes Security Services, and will be taking a crisis intervention course this June sponsored by the college.

He walks around the school's various buildings at the Welland campus. "Even up to the Mackenzie and Hennepin buildings," he said. "They were surprised to see me in these areas at first. They've never seen a security guard there."

However, he said the campus is "too big" for one man to patrol properly. "If there were a commotion in Mackenzie and I were in the library, well, there should be at least two guards."

He said he likes Canada and Niagara College.

"We all have different ideas at different stages of our lives. I didn't anticipate coming to Canada. My wife pressured me a bit; all our family is here." He said the health care in Canada is excellent compared to England.

"I wouldn't have gotten the same treatment in England as I did here," he said, referring to a health problem he'd had shortly after his arrival in Canada.

Mr. Hawkins completed his education at an engineering college in the Midlands in England, where he was born and raised. He moved to Devon to work as an internal auditor for a tailoring organization.

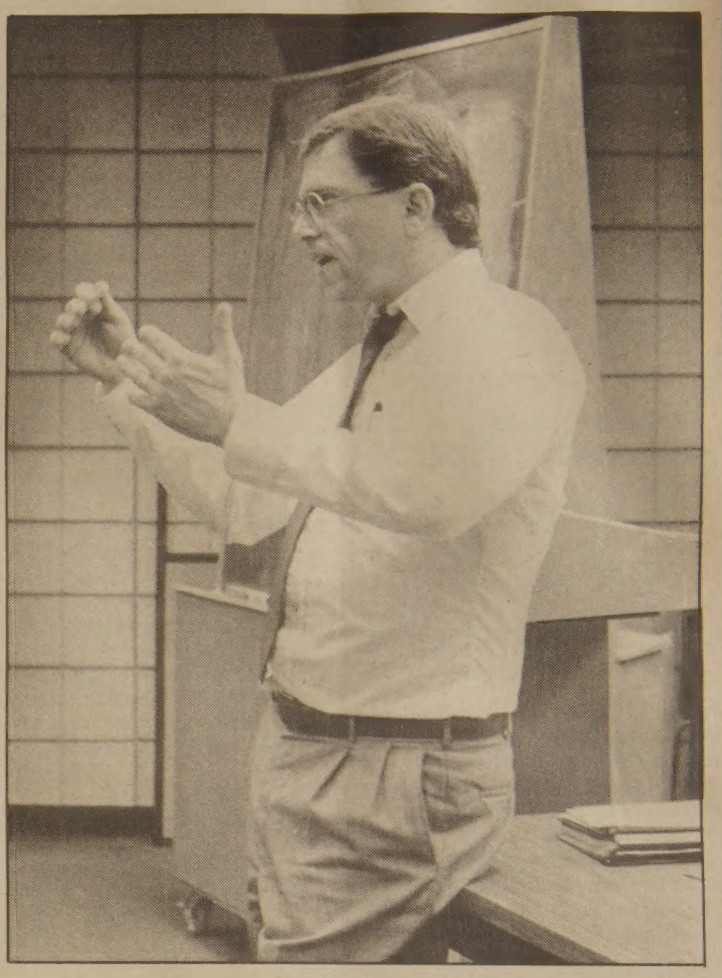
He held a variety of jobs before coming to Canada. "You have to do what you can to earn a dollar," he said.

His "most rewarding" job was an artificial limb technician.

"You know you're doing something for somebody that's less fortunate than yourself," he said.

Investigator enjoys teaching

By LYNN DRAPEAU
Staff Writer



Owner of one of the largest private investigating firms in the province, Ken Mitchell teaches second-year law and security administration students.

Photo by Lynn Drapeau

For 37-year-old Ken Mitchell, being a teacher at Niagara College is nothing new. Although this is his first attempt at teaching, "I find that running a business the size that I have, being a teacher is part of the job," he said.

Mr. Mitchell teaches a private investigation course for second-year law and security administration students. He started teaching in January after short notice, filling in for a teacher who backed out at the last minute, he said.

"I suppose they had to scramble to find someone, and Ron Shaidle (director of the Law and Security Administration), contacted the registrar for private investigators who apparently told them I would be the best person to teach the course, so they contacted me," Mr. Mitchell said.

Mr. Mitchell owns a private investigation company called Mitchell and Associates of Hamilton, employing 30 people, 24 of whom are investigators. "I'm either the largest or second largest in the province," he said, adding the agency has seven offices in the province.

"Teaching here has been fun because it's given me the first opportunity to bring together in some ordered form everything that I've learned over years of investigting," he said.

In the business 17 years, Mr. Mitchell, originally from Milton, Ont., worked about eight hours a week when he first began, but now works about 50.

He said he would like to try teaching again, "at least one more time, simply because I have done all the work in putting the course outline together which was most of the work involved this year." He would like to try a year of teaching with just the teaching aspects involved, he said.

Richard Gage, a law and security faculty member, said Mr. Mitchell's course content is "good." Mr. Gage, who is part-owner in a private investigating firm himself, "can recognize that what he's teaching is what is required in the field," he said.

"He's obviously extremely well-versed in his field, probably one of the best individuals, I suppose, that might be available to do that kind of teaching," Mr. Shaidle said. "We needed a teacher on short notice and Ken was available. He also came highly recommended."

Mr. Mitchell invested in his own business when he was 25. "My business was restricted for about three or four years exclusively to the investigation of motor vehicle accidents," he said. However, over the next three or four years, "I conducted over 70 homicide investigations," he said. After that, he went into insurance investigations and "in three years built one of the largest insurance investigation firms in the province."

This pattern of change is the reason he enjoys his work so much. "My role in business has changed every three or four years, which is like having a new career every three or four years," he said. "It's almost like cheating."

His company has four main specializations: insurance, workers' compensation, protection of intellectual property, and corporate types of investigations. "And in the past, we have done a great deal of criminal investigations," he said.

"A private investigator's job isn't so much to find justice, but to find the information so that our client can always act on the basis of the best information available," he said.

"If we've done that, then we've done our job."

'O-Pee-Chee'

Sports card collecting a profitable pastime

By SHANNON STRANGES
Staff Writer

Remember when you were about eight years old and collected hockey and baseball cards?

You would go into the corner store, purchase a pack of O-Pee-Chee hockey or baseball cards, and quickly run home to see if you had any new cards. That was a long time ago, right? Well for John Kott, that might be just hours ago.

John, a Niagara College general college student, has been collecting cards since he was seven years old. He owns the Wayne Gretzky rookie card, which, to him and many other card collectors, is a most highly sought after card. Sentimentally, he has a Jim Presley card which he feels might be worth something in a few years.

The 18-year-old might be the only Houston Astros fan in Welland. His favorite player is future baseball Hall of Fame member, Nolan Ryan. John even has a Nolan Ryan jersey from when the pitcher played with the Astros.

Asked why he likes the Astros, he said he doesn't know why. "It's funny because I hate stadiums that use Astro urf. It's like playing on a pool t ble."

As an avid card collector, John makes the rounds by going to different card stores in the area. The cards he purchases the most are Upper Deck, the company responsible for revitalizing the card collecting world.

Upper Deck cards have an action picture on the front which makes the player seem more alive to the collector. On the back, the player's statistics and a different action shot are shown. There is also a hologram of the Upper Deck logo which makes these cards a little different.

The older companies' cards are just as fun to collect, however, the picture quality is poor, John said.

The resale value of these cards, such as Topps and O-Pee-Chee, is only a fraction of what Upper Deck cards sell for.

John also likes hockey, but "it just tides me over until baseball."

Besides Nolan Ryan, some of his other favorite players include Carlton Fisk and Roger Clemens. His favorite coaches are Sparky Anderson because "he gets in the game," and Yogi Berra because of "his quotes."

So, if you happen to find a Nolan Ryan card hiding in your closet, find John and ask him if he's interested in buying it.

Vote 'less than impressive'

By MARK NESBITT
Staff Writer

Although only 257 students voted in the recent Student Administrative Council election, the turnout is a "huge improvement" over last year, and the highest in Niagara College history.

The vote totals may be the highest ever, but Cory Abt, Student Administrative Council president, said five per cent participation in the election by students is "less than impressive."

"The voting process must be much more flexible," he said, explaining changes must take place before students will take an active interest. He said more intensive campaigning, use of the student centre as a polling area and a proposed television monitor information service would increase student participation in elections.

"The problem is that people come here, do what they have to do and go home."

Donna Flutur, Student Administrative Council office manager, said students with part-time jobs and family commitments were also factors in the low student vote.

She said students will get more involved with elections when they see "Student Administrative Council in action."

"The only way to get students to vote is to grab them with a hook by the throat," Lou Dimattio, assistant to the director of student services, said. She said a lack of student activities combined with off campus responsibilities for many mature students give the election "very little importance" for most students.

She said a combination of better advertising, constitutional reform and more detailed training for the incoming Student Administrative Council executive members would combine to "increase student awareness" and make students take a more active part in everyday college life.

it's neat to
Pitch-In!

Sports

Canadian Cancer Society, Welland Unit, representative Cathy Berkhout-Basse (centre) takes a practice shot while Michael Folemsbee, (left), organizer of the Niagara Classic and Bill Utting, chairman of the annual golf tournament, judge her accuracy. The event's proceeds will benefit the Cancer Society.

Photo by Shannon Stranges

Niagara Classic golf aces to boost Cancer campaign

A limited number of tickets are still available for the fifth annual Niagara Classic, a golf tournament run by second-year business-sales students at the college.

The tournament is scheduled for Sunday, May 5 at the Willo-Dell Country Club in Niagara Falls. The $45 cost includes 18 holes of golf and a banquet dinner to be held that evening beginning at 6 p.m. Tickets are available from second-year students or in ME104A.

Additional tickets are available for those who want to attend the banquet only. The cost is $20 per person. The deadline for purchasing tickets in April 26.

A Ford car will be awarded to the golfer who gets a hole in one on the 16th hole. The car is being donated by Al Slattery Ford in Welland.

Sponsors for the tournament, including Molson Breweries, Century 21 and *Computer Galaxy*, have donated various prizes to be given away throughout the day in raffles and door prizes.

Proceeds from the Niagara Classic will go to benefit the Canadian Cancer Society.

Humber Hawks have wings clipped

By KARI CHWIECZAK
Staff Writer

The Humber College Hawks hockey team won't be soaring next season.

The Toronto-area community college recently announced the termination of its successful Ontario Colleges Athletic Association men's hockey program because of the high financial costs. About two-thirds of the college's $160,000 athletic budget was spent on the hockey program.

In the OCAA division one 23-year history, the Hawks had captured the championship seven times. The Hawks were defeated this season by the Georgian College Grizzlies, ending Humber's five-year championship reign.

Humber College president Robert Gordon said a number of factors contributed to the dropping of the program. He said the fact the Hawks did not have a home arena was "a concern."

"We played out of Westwood Arena (a rink a few blocks from the college campus), and that was expensive to rent for games and practices," Mr. Gordon said in a telephone interview last week.

Hockey equipment was another major cost. "The equipment was very expensive. The players would break sticks like toothpicks, and each stick was $25," he said.

Fan support was not part of student life at Humber, Mr. Gordon said. "We have 10,000 full-time students, and about 100 of them came to games."

An attempt will be mde to include programs such as soccer, cricket and table tennis to add variety to the college's athletic department, he said. "Humber is a multicultured college, and not all people were interested in hockey."

Last season, the OCAA included nine teams. To date, only Seneca, Sheridan, Georgian, Fleming and Canadore colleges remain in the division.

Niagara College faced a similar financial problem when the Knights hockey team dropped from the OCAA to the International Collegiate Hockey League about 10 years ago.

At the time, the OCAA included teams from Windsor, London, Toronto, Hamilton, and northern Ontario colleges. The same problems that faced Humber contributed to the changing of divisions for Niagara's hockey team.

Niagara College does not have a campus arena, and finding ice time was difficult and expensive. "Welland only has two arenas, and with a Junior B team here, the arena was available only twice a week for us," Niagara College athletic co-ordinator Peter Rylander, said.

About $20,000 of Niagara's $75,000 athletic budget is spent on the hockey program.

"Fred (Bassi, Niagara hockey coach) talked to some U.S. teams, and we decided to change leagues," he said. "We like it better because our overnight trips have decreased, and our expenses have dropped dramatically."

"The players like it because there is more competition and we are always in the playoffs."

Mr. Rylander said the decision to axe Humber's hockey program was "purely a financial decision."

"They had more overnight trips, and it got extremely expensive with 30 guys in a hotel. They went to Peterborough, Windsor and Ottawa," he said. "We (Niagara) have an overnight trip once a year to Penn State."

"A big expense for us is equipment. We provide our players with hockey pants, socks and sticks. Sticks alone cost us $4,000 a year," said Mr. Rylander.

He did not know what Humber supplied to their players, "but being in Toronto, I can just imagine the costs."

Hectic pace for hockey dad

By KARI CHWIECZAK
Staff Writer

When you sit down and think about it, how hard has college life been?

Late nights, essays, tests, and hangovers take their toll after a while, but what if you were married, had three young children, a part-time job, played a key role on a championship sports team, and went to college?

This image is a reality to Jeff Mazi, a law and security administration student at Niagara College.

This 26-year-old Niagara Falls resident has had to juggle this hectic schedule for the past two years, but enjoys the challenge.

"It's worked out ok," Jeff said. "There are times I don't get much sleep, but I find time for everything. I've missed a lot of school, but because of work, or if I had to take my children somewhere."

Jeff, formerly of Dunnville, and his wife Marianne were married on Valentine's Day in the Bahamas two years ago. They have two children, four months and 18 months old, and a five-year-old step daughter.

Jeff works part-time at his brother's market in Niagara Falls, but he is seeking employment in a law-related field.

"One of the reasons I chose the law program was so I could get out of industry work. Now that I live in Niagara Falls, there are a lot of options for me in customs and policing. I want to help out the community," he said.

Jeff, a graduate of Dunnville High School, made the decision to attend the college when the steel plant he worked at closed its doors.

"When the plant closed up, they offered to pay us unemployment and pay for our college education," he said.

During his time at the college, he has played with the Niagara Knights hockey team. The Knights have captured the ICHL championship for the past two year, and Jeff considers this year's victory "the sweetest of all."

"We weren't supposed to win this year, but coach (Fred) Bassi gets the most out of each and every player," Jeff said. "The guys like him so much personally. We had to win this one for him."

In addition to two ICHL championships, Jeff was honored with the MVP award for his leadership on the hockey team, and an athlete of distinction award.

Jeff said he would like to continue to play the sport with the Senior A Dunnville Mudcats. "I liked playing with them before, and I might try it with them next year. That level is physical," he said.

Penn State trip nixed as expenses skyrocket

Pack up the equipment, make hotel reservations, load the bus, and count all heads. Chaos, chaos, chaos!

Going to State College, Pa. for the annual Penn State-Niagara College hockey weekend is over for another season, but it proved to be an expensive journey.

Last February, the Knights travelled south of the border on a three-day excursion for a two-game tournament. The cost of driving the players and coaches on the 10-hour return trip equalled $1,900 "for the bus alone," Peter Rylander, Niagara College athletic co-ordinator, said.

Mr. Rylander said the hotel cost was about $500 with a meal allowance given to each player. In total, more than $2,500 was spent on the trip to Penn State.

Niagara College is scheduled to visit Penn State again next season, but the hockey team will spend only one night instead of a weekend, to cut expenses, he said.

Niagara's soccer team loses its seventh game

A defensive lapse in the second half of the game cost the Niagara Knights soccer team a victory Tuesday night. Pizza Roma rebounded from a two-goal deficit to beat Niagara 3-2.

"We were good in the first half, but lazy in the second half," Niagara assistant coach Steve Celestini said.

Steve Mcintyre and Nick Fabiano scored for Niagara.

On April 9, Niagara suffered its sixth loss of the season. Niagara trailed 3-0 at half and could not battle back, as Cafe Amelia won the contest 4-2.

"We played better in the second half, but we missed a lot of chances to score," Niagara coach Ed Fox, said.

Steve McIntyre was "outstanding" in goal for Niagara, said Mr. Fox. Niagara scorers were Frank Serra and Len Camelino, Mr. Fox said.

The team record is one win, six losses and three ties. They have three remaining games, including April 24 at 9 p.m., May 1 at 8 p.m., and May 2 at 10 p.m. All games will be played at the Welland Indoor Soccer Dome.

Staff wanted on the tees

Attention all college employees! The Niagara College Golf Invitational is looking for you. If you know how to golf or just want to have some fun, keep Friday, May 24 open.

Any college employee or college business associate can play in the tournament.

The 18-hole event costs $150 with all proceeds going to Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls.

Whirlpool Golf Course in Queenston Heights will be hosts for the weekend event. On May 23 there will be a practice round for the golfers.

All interested golfers can call Barbara Fonfara at the Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls for further information.

The deadline for registration is later today.

Mature students face many problems

By ABIGAIL KELLY
Staff Writer

More and more mature students are returning to college, but many find it more stressful than they had anticipated, says a survey conducted by a Niagara College teacher.

The survey is being completed as part of Pat Frank's masters of educaton at Brock University.

Mrs. Frank is an educational resources and special needs instructor and her project is a result of her experiences with mature students in the classroom.

"Educational Resources and Special Needs was attracting more mature females who were undergoing stress and didn't know where to go with it,"Mrs. Frank said.

Her survey focused on the female mature student, any female enrolled at Niagara who has been absent from school for at least three years. The survey included students from the health sciences programs, applied arts programs, business programs and technology programs.

The report includes statistics such as age and marital status but its main focus is on the stress factors the mature female student encounters on her return to school. The names of those who completed the survey will remain confidential.

"The major stress factors are financial problems, fear of failure and mother's guilt," Mrs. Frank said.

"Mother's guilt," as described by Mrs. Frank, refers to those mothers who try "to become supermom and spread themselves too thin."

"Single mothers sometimes feel as if they are abandoning their child when they return to school," she said.

Student services offers many services which could benefit the mature student, such as peer tutoring and stress management, but services geared specifically to the mature student are scarce.

Mrs. Frank said she found her participants were largely unaware of the services they could use, and benefit from, at student services.

Student services did organize a mature student support group, but as the year went on, interest waned, she said.

"It was a good idea with a lot of potential, but there wasn't enough interest to continue," Mrs. Frank said.

As friendships grew, the students in the Educational Resources and Special Needs program formed their own support groups and shared babysitting costs when they got together as a study group.

Although Mrs. Frank has not completed her survey, the feedback she has received has been positive. The participants are suggesting to Mrs. Frank what services they feel would be beneficial. Seminars such as living on a student loan, budgeting and parenting as well as noon-hour fitness classes and counselling for those going through a divorce were some suggestions made by the students. A variety of times when these services are offered was another suggestion.

"Time is a big problem for mature students as their schedules don't allow for much," she said.

Some students would also like to see more social activities other than pubs geared to the mature student.

Through her study, Mrs. Frank hopes to target the time when mature students are feeling the most stressed so support systems can be provided. "The system is geared to the 'traditional student' and mature students feel at a loss when they need someone to talk to,"she said.

Mrs. Frank said she understands the stress as well as the demands of being a mother of two childern and a student as she experienced if herself.

International students raise festival funds

By DIANA HARRIS
Staff Writer

Five international students from the English as a Second Language program sold cookies at the college's recent open house to raise money for a field trip to the Shaw Festival April 30.

The students wore Niagara College T-shirts. Hand-lettered "Welcome to Niagara College" signs were displayed on the information tables. The signs were written in five languages including Japanese, Malaysian, Mandarin, Korean and Hungarian.

"This is the first time our program has taken part in an open house," Gaylene Levesque, English as a Second Language instructor, said. "Many people stopped at our information table when they saw the welcome signs written in their language."

Liewshen Loh, a 21-year-old student from Malaysia, said, "This program has helped to improve my English. I will now be able to apply to a business/administration program at the college next year."

Liewshen and the four other international students will graduate from the English as a Second Language program in August.

Gary Webb, development coordinator for English as a Second Language, said the five international students, "have come a long way since starting this program in September of last year."

Ivy Ng, an 18-year-old student from Hong Kong, will take theatre arts next September at Brock University after she graduates.

"I found the English as a Second Language program very helpful," she said. "I enjoy living in the Niagara Region because it is a good place to study. It is peaceful."

Marti Jurmain, operations coordinator for English as a Second Language, said, "the students were quite keen about participating in the open house. It gave them the chance to use their new (English) language skills."

A 19-year-old student from South Korea, Julie Ha, said she hopes to take the Fashion Communication Art program at the college next year.

"The English as a Second Language program has helped me a lot," she said. "I also like living in the Niagara Region. The people are kind and friendly."

Eiko Nishi is a 23-year-old student from Japan. After graduating, she wants to return to Japan and teach English to primary children.

"I liked taking the English as a Second Language program at Niagara College because there were only a few students. It was like a family. Very relaxed," she said.

Twenty-three-year-old Klara Janko of Hungary also wants to return to her native country to teach English after she graduates.

"I enjoyed taking the English as a Second Language program. It really helped me with my English," she said.

"The five students were successful in raising sufficient funds for their field trip to the Shaw Festival," Mrs. Levesque said.

Continuing education gives summer students options

By CINDY HARRIMAN
Staff Writer

The winter term is drawing to an end and students' minds are beginning to concentrate on summer employment — and, of course, soaking up some rays.

But for those with ambition who wish to further their education, broaden their horizons or simply pursue a particular interest, Niagara College offers a Continuing Education program with a wide variety of courses.

"There are a lot of new programs this year," said Nancy Caine, director of Continuing Education.

"People of all ages enrol in the Continuing Education program," Mrs. Caine said. "We get a combination of people."

Many post-secondary students enrol, as well as people out in the workforce who come back to work on additional certificates, she said. "Occasionally we get people coming to college for the first time."

Mrs. Caine said she hopes there is a general awareness of the programs offered since course calendars are distributed through local newspapers.

Courses offered vary from microcomputer applications to "Heavenly Cheesecakes." There is a wide variety of courses in the areas of art, science, business, computers, cooking, psychology and management. There are also many special interest courses offered.

For example, a Tall Ship Evening Cruise on the Lake is a special interest course which involves a dinner-dance cruise on Lake Ontario aboard a tall ship, Empire Sandy.

There is a self-assertiveness course which allows students to develop skills so they can express their assertiveness in a comfortable manner.

In photography-introduction, basic technical skills in black and white photography are examined such as shooting techniques, basic darkroom processing, printing and enlarging.

Continuing Education courses are available to anyone 19 or over or to anyone who has a secondary school graduation diploma.

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Ventures develops new job skills

By MARK POWLEY
Staff Writer

As the recession casts its shadow over the Canadian economy — both employed and unemployed workers are being aided by the Ventures Portfolio at Niagara College.

"We're saying to employees in order to survive they have to spend (time) developing human resource skills," Dan Patterson, vice-president of community ventures, said. "People are the main assets."

The goal of the Ventures Portfolio, a group of 75 to 80 full-time staff, is to achieve a training culture for "high-quality, result-oriented training," he said.

In order to help activate the Ventures Portfolio, George Repar, from the college's planning and development department, provided important contacts in the peninsula.

Ventures works with the unemployed and employed "adult learners" in the Niagara region, by providing college programs such as English as a Second Language, Ontario Basic Skills, apprenticeship programs, technician and technologist programs, and trade programs.

"Employers recognize the importance to constantly upgrade, retrain, and retool their workforce," Mr. Patterson said.

The ventures program contacts the Canada Employment and Immigration Department and is given a list of unemployed workers. The workers are then contacted by the college. Ventures studies the economic sectors in the Niagara area — mainly manufacturing, service and construction.

"We look at skill shortages in the labor market, then match the unemployed with the gap," Mr. Patterson said.

"We want a reputation," he said. "We therefore need to ensure that our existing workforce has the necessary skills and ability to meet the labor needs. It is imperative we reach the employed and unemployed with our educational and training programs."

Dealing with the employed worker plays "a key role" in helping adjoin the needs of the labor conditions.

"We try to design appropriate training and appropriate interventions for the employed workforce that keeps them up to date and upgraded," Mr. Patterson said.

The venture portfolio helps the "transition" for the unemployed worker — from unemployed to employed — by providing necessary skills, knowledge and ability to get back into the workforce, Mr. Patterson said.

Ventures is trying to "forge" partnerships with Niagara industries by getting more involved "in anticipation of training and development requirements."

One of the main reasons why Ventures is getting more involved with training and retraining is the subtle shift that is taking place in the province's workforce.

Ontario has not kept pace with the alterations in technology and the marketplace, Mr. Patterson said.

A 1990 analysis survey conducted by the Ontario Ministry of Skills and Development said growth in training of workers will decline during the coming decade to a rate much lower than the past 12 years.

There are three types of retraining, Brian Keppy, a history and politics instructor at the college, said.

In one scenario, a 40-year-old automobile worker, who has no other skills, is fired — becoming an unemployed worker.

The second example involves people who have a degree, but are unable to obtain a job and instead choose a university or college to acquire another skill by retraining.

The third example is a person who leaves his or her high school education for a job, then realizes the job "has no economic future." He or she then returns to college for retraining or upgrading skills in order to receive an entry level job.

"When a worker upgrades or retrains his or her skills this leads to higher education and creates a 'better' worker," Mr. Keppy said.

"We want to be known in the peninsula as the 'trainer of choice'," Mr. Patterson said.

He said Ventures has had "a very positive response" with employers in the Niagara Region.

CANCER INFORMATION SERVICE
CALL
1-800-263-6718

Deficit strains plans

By MARK DENIS
Staff Writer

"Time and money are the only things stopping us," David Schleich, vice-president of academics, said when asked about the obstacles to implementing new academic policies at Niagara College.

Although the college deficit has put a strain on the availability of new, innovative programs, Mr. Schleich is "optimistic" about the possible re-implementation of the dental hygiene program in September.

"Dental care professionals in the Niagara Region have raised $80,000 in a month to help fund the $250,000 needed for the facilities required."

Mr. Schleich said the introduction of "high interest and value programs" such as dental hygiene will increase the college's revenue.

However, the college does not receive immediate provincial government funding if a new program is initiated.

He said funding for programs is not available until two years after the program's implementation. After the third year, 50 per cent of the program's funding is received and 89 per cent of funding is not received until the fourth year.

The payoff does not come quickly which explains the hesitation in scheduling new programs, he said.

Mr. Schleich said the college deficit is a "growth period" as new career training programs have been sought. The Ventures Portfolio will increase training in various areas of the community. Niagara Industrial Training Council supports training and industry in the Niagara Region.

"These are exciting new ways to increase enrolment," he said.

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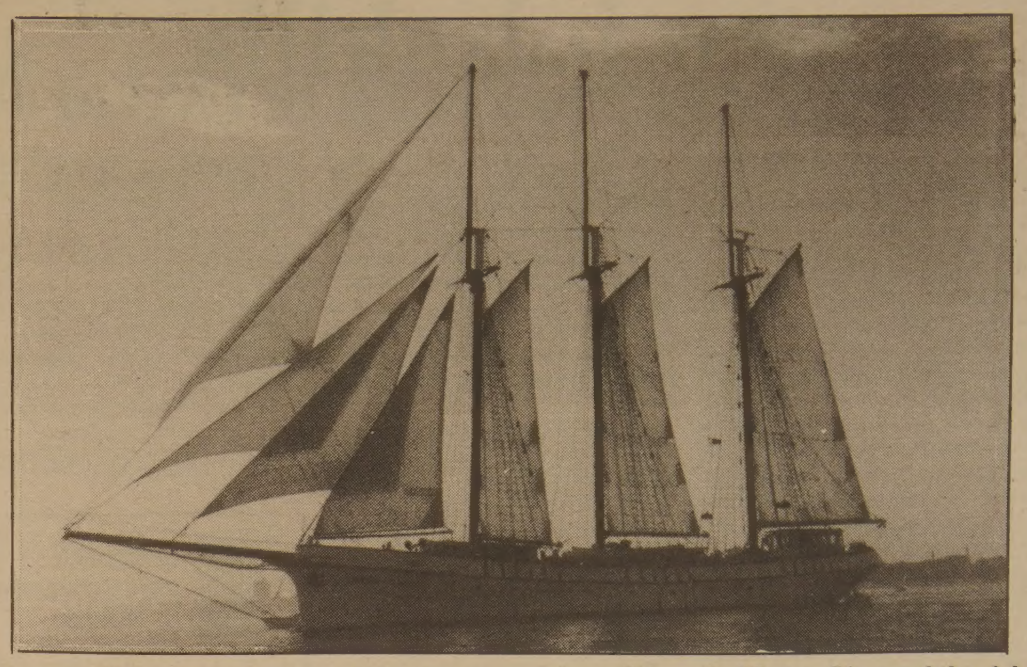

The Empire Sandy, a tall sailing ship, will offer cruises June 1 and 2 through Niagara College's Continuing Education department. The day cruises will tour the Niagara River and the night cruise will sail around Lake Ontario.

Photo special to Niagara News

Tall ship sets sail in June

By MARILYN WALKINGTON
Staff Writer

The time is running out to join the Empire Sandy which sets sail on an historic cruise of Lake Ontario and the Lower Niagara River June 1 and Sunday, June 2.

People from Toronto, Buffalo and London have already signed up to set sail, so only limited space for more passengers is available, Shirley Tomovic, Niagara College development officer and the person to contact about the cruise, said.

This is the seventh year the Empire Sandy has sailed but the fifth year on this particular course.

The ship sailed through the eight locks of the Welland Canal during the first two years of the cruise, organized by the college's Continuing Education department.

"There wasn't much of a turnout because it was time-consuming waiting for each of the locks, and it was more expensive," Ms. Tomovic said.

Five years ago they began the cruise on Lake Ontario which generated "a larger turnout of interest."

"It's more exciting with the ship at full sail for the entire cruise and an historical commentary of The War of 1812 and the Niagara River unlike the eight to 12-hour cruise on the Welland Canal with only the motor to get through (the tour) quicker."

"Cruising Through History on a Tall Ship" is offered June 1 and 2 beginning at 11 a.m. from Port Dalhousie on a six-hour cruise including a lunch and dinner. Cost is $77.

"We will be sailing up the Lower Niagara River as far as the conditions will allow; our goal is the Queenston-Lewiston Bridge," Ms. Tomovic said.

"A Tall Ship Evening Cruise on the Lake", a dinner-dance cruise with a steel band, will sail June 1 from 7 p.m. until midnight around Lake Ontario. Cost is $49.

For more information, call Ms. Tomovic at 735-2211, extension 510 or forms are available at the Continuing Education office.

Each cruise has space for 200 people. All tickets have been sold for the evening cruise. There are about 100 tickets left for both day cruises.

Stand and be counted for '91 census

By DOUG MORTON
Staff Writer

Stand and be counted.

Better yet, remain seated and wait for the soon-to-come, once-a-decade knock at the door all Canadians should hear when it's their turn to be counted in the 1991 decennial census.

The "huge task" of counting Canada's population is underway and has been for some time at different levels, Don Jones, a census commissioner from Cayuga, said in a recent interview.

Because Statistics Canada, the federal agency in charge of the census, asks all information on the census questionnaire be dated up to June 5, 1991, that is "the official statistical day," Mr. Jones said.

As one of four census commissioners for the Regional Municipality of Haldimand-Norfolk, and in charge of 20 enumeration zones, Mr. Jones said about 34,000 census workers across the country will be involved by the time the job is complete.

"I've been working at it about a month. Statistics Canada has probably been at it for at least a year, judging from the mail I've been getting," he said of the various levels of preparation and work underway.

"Some results will be back by the end of the calendar year but probably not much of it until 1992."

The census is much more than a simple head count. Age-groups, numbers of Canadians speaking each official language, family sizes, types of residences, occupational diversity and ethnic density are a few of the demographic factors the census helps to determine.

As well, the census helps "the federal government gather the statistical data required for transfer payments to the provinces," Mr. Jones said.

If the census reveals a large enough shift in population to another electoral district, "the number of MPs (members of Parliament) may be increased for that area."

While immigration planning and control relies heavily on census figures, and trends essential to long-range planning are revealed by studying such figures as urban and rural population densities, "the main goal of the census is to determine the population of the country," he said.

The last census, in 1981, counted 24,343,000 Canadians, an increase of more than three million from the 1971 count.

Mr. Jones said there will be no major changes in this year's census except "in the mail-bag." During the last census, "we went door to door to pick up the completed forms. This year, residents will mail them in."

Nouveau Terrace films rock video

By TARA GRIGG
Staff Writer

St. Catharines-based band Nouveau Terrace will film its first rock video April 27 and 28. Locations for the video include the Hideaway in St. Catharines and other locations in the area.

People wanting to be extras in the video should be at the Hideaway April 28 at 9 a.m.

The video will be made to the music and lyrics of 'Two Hearts.'

The video is self-financed and will be directed by Janet Spegel of Ottawa, who has worked on many Canadian movies and was the assistant to the director for the movie 'Cocktail.'

Auditions will be held Sunday April 21 for the video. The group is looking for one female to star in the video. If anyone is interested, they can call Darren Platakis, a guitarist with the band, at 646-5430.

Producer-songwriter Ira Brown of Toronto said his band is doing the video for two reasons. It will be the promotional video for the band, to be given to record companies and so it may appear on Canada's music station Much Music, he said.

Mr. Brown is confident the video "will be a big success."

"They never cease to amaze me. Everytime I see them perform, whether it be live or on video, they improve," he said.

Mr. Brown said the band has "a very positive attitude and that will be their biggest advantage."

Nouveau Terrace has been together for two years and includes four members: John 'Face' McNamara, Darren Platakis, Greg Furminger and Todd DeRocco, 22, a first-year visual and creative arts and design student at Niagara College.

New English as a Second Language program comes to Niagara College

Niagara College will initiate a new program this fall geared toward helping international students, landed immigrants, and refugees.

The General College program — English as a Second Language is a one-year program incorporating 10 hours per week of the English as a Second Language course, and 14 hours of general college courses, Gary Webb, development co-ordinator for the English as a Second Language program said.

Students registering at the college for the program are required to take a standardized test to evaluate their potential in dealing with English. A final score of 500 or more exempts the student from this particular program. However, for a person with a score of 450 or less, Mr. Webb said, "this program will help them out."

"It's an exciting program," he said. "It opens the college to new people. If a person's language skills are not strong enough, they can use this new program as a 'bridging program' to regular college."

This is a full-time, post-secondary course designed to assist those people who had established careers in their own countries, and who need to take English to function.

"The college has to get involved," Mr. Webb said. "The idea is to allow these people to retain their dignity by offering this course at a college level."

First graduation held for home supporters

The first graduation for the Home Support Worker Program-Level III was held March 19 at Mount Carmel Campus in Niagara Falls. Thirty-one women from the part-time Home Support Worker Program received their Level III certificate after completing the 20-week course. This level completes their program.

The women include: Yolanda Bologna, Debra Book, Julia Brown, Karen Caplan, Judy Christie, Glenna Dueck, Elizabeth Eccles, Barbara Floga, Shawna Fuller, Ninette Gallant, Alice Galway, Candice Garriock, Alice Hollas, Joan Jacklin, Josephine Kimmer, Marie Langkamer, Margot Leslie, Valerie Misener, Marion Paget, Mary Penner, Grace Rogers, Darla Schilz, Frances Sholdra, Brenda Smith, Marion Southwell, Ina Sven, Anne Tritton, Rachel Ujfalussy, Jo-Ann Upper, Donna Yarrow, and Ruth Youngblut.

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Loyalist chefs cook 'for the love of it'

By CATHY WATT
Staff Writer

The softly-lit dining room at the Loyalist Retirement Residence on King Street in St. Catharines is quiet — the residents have returned to their rooms for the night.

However, for Linda Branchaud, 40, and Pierrette Lambert, 44, their work in the kitchen is never finished.

Ms. Branchaud, who lives in St. Catharines with her 19-year-old son, Jason, is completing her work experience for the Food Preparation/Kitchen Management program sponsored by the Niagara Industrial Training Advisory Corporation. She is attending classes at Niagara College's Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls until June while she is working full-time at the Loyalist.

Ms. Lambert, who lives in Allanburg, is head chef at the Loyalist. She graduated from the program in 1984. She obtained her certificate of qualification for the trade of cook and is working toward her Chef de Cuisine.

She said she enjoyed the program and attributes her success to the college. "It's a great program; it gives back what you put into it. Without the college, I wouldn't be where I am today," Ms. Lambert said in an interview last week. She has travelled to Europe several times and worked in the world's largest restaurant, Kafer, in Germany.

Although Ms. Branchaud earned her honors BA in politics and her masters in judicial administration at Brock University, she chose a career in food preparation because she enjoys the work. "I come from a family of chefs — this is what I want to do," she said.

Ms. Branchaud's grandparents owned a catering business in Ottawa, and her grandmother was a cook at Stelco and Dofasco. She operated her own catering service, L Marcelle Catering, for 10 years; however, she doesn't have much time to keep it up now that she is working at the Loyalist.

Ms. Lambert also has chefs in her family; her mother owned a catering service in Quebec. She said she cooks "for the love of it — not for the money."

The two women are responsible for preparing snacks and specialty items for various occasions, in addition to the regular three meals a day for nearly 100 residents. On weekends, residents' families often come for meals.

Ms. Lambert visits individual residents to plan the menus and special diets, and knows them all by name. "The pay or reward I get is being in contact with the people — they become like family."

Kathleen Bannister, administrator of the Loyalist, said Ms. Lambert and Ms. Branchaud are "fantastic. It takes a certain kind of person to work with seniors," she said.

Moira Cairns, dining room supervisor, said the women are "very efficient. They're indescribable."

Ms. Branchaud said she is happy to have the opportunity to learn administration as well as food preparation with Ms. Lambert at the Loyalist. She first learned of Ms. Lambert's success when her "glory story" was told at the orientation for the program.

Stanley West, co-ordinator of all culinary programs since 1982, said the two women are "an inspiration to other students." He said he knew they would make a good team.

Ms. Branchaud said Mr. West gave her confidence. "He really does care (about his students)."

Although the two women are busy six days a week at the Loyalist, they find time to enjoy their hobbies.

Ms. Branchaud sews handmade Victorian nightgowns, collects dolls and makes wedding cakes. Ms. Lambert does aerobic exercise and makes porcelain dolls.

Ms. Lambert maintains high standards in the kitchen. "Coming from the college, you learn perfection. We care about what we do; it's important to us that the food tastes and looks good for people."

Ms. Branchaud agreed. "It's like putting your signature on it."

Linda Branchaud (left) and Pierrette Lambert prepare a dish in the kitchen at the Loyalist Retirement Residence in St. Catharines.

Photo by Cathy Watt

Hot food competition a 'success'

A hot food competition at the college's Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls last Saturday was a "tremendous success," David Gibson, competition chairman and a chef and instructor at the centre, said.

The competition, which catered to more than 120 guests, "not only went as planned, but beyond my wildest imagination," Mr. Gibson said.

Ten teams participated in the competition. The first-place team included Noboru Yamada, Jean-Luc Barone, Daniel Page, Pascal Schwalm and Lorrie Murphy. The second-place team included Mark Hand, Paul Albert, Barry Burton, Jim Juncan and Mario Scozzafava, while the third-place team included Patrick T. Hagan, Jake Newfeld, David McCubbin and Wim Stekelenberg.

Volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed this summer as "conversation partners" for international students in the college's English as a Second Language program.

"It is an excellent opportunity for a student to learn about a new culture while they converse with an international student. About one hour per week will be sufficient," Gaylene Levesque, an English as a Second Language instructor at the college, said.

Interested students can contact Mrs. Levesque at Extension 507.

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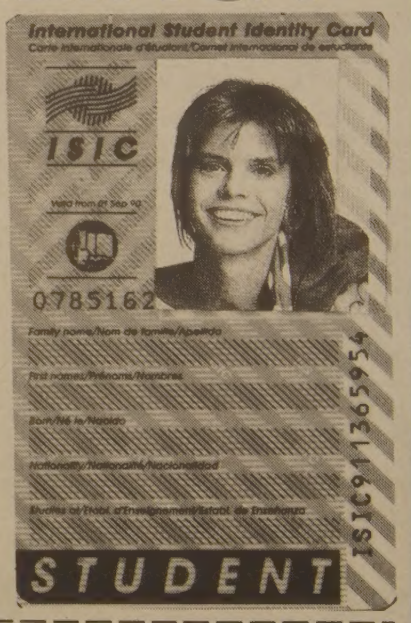

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Student job prospects 'favorable'

By MARK DENIS
Staff Writer

Students concerned about their financial security for the summer might find comfort at their nearest Student Employment Centre.

An information desk was set up in the mini-cafeteria April 8 to "increase the awareness of the services available to students," Julie Perone, supervisor of the Port Colborne Student Employment Centre on Elm Street, said.

Ms. Perone was assisted at the information booth by Maria Giampaolo, supervisor of the Fort Erie Student Employment Centre on Jarvis Street, and Lisa Ali, supervisor of the Niagara Falls Student Employment Centre on Peer Street.

The three centres are working in conjunction to "benefit and meet the needs of students and employers," said Ms. Giampaolo. "We are not in competition."

A job information board is posted at the three employment centres for students interested in getting summer employment. The job board includes: a list of employment opportunities in and out-of-town, a place of contact to relay information, and a registration area. The information boards provide descriptions of employment possibilities in the areas where students wish to work.

The jobs are not offered on a first-come, first-serve basis, but given to the most qualified students. When applying for employment, students must complete a student registration form.

"Job prospects look favorable in the first weeks of application," Ms. Perone said.

There are two methods used during job processing. Selection and deferral is a process which lists job preferences and allows the applicant to obtain a job suitable from their experience. Display vacancies is a new formula for employment in which the student applies directly to the employer.

"You must change your strategy for the opportunities available and market your skills for your desired employer," said Ms. Giampaolo.

The summer employment program is called 'Challenge '91' and is funded by the federal government. Unlike the manpower offices, there are no fees for information sessions or registration.

There are one-on-one group information sessions, which is a new initiative this year to cover job researching techniques. The employees of the student employment centres wish "to get acquainted with the students and encourage them to visit often," said Ms. Perone.

Both Ms. Perone and Ms. Giampaolo were pleased with the turnout and the students' "eagerness to work."

"There was a good initiative on the part of all the offices to get together to benefit the students," said Ms. Perone.

Students are encouraged to register with the individual centres as quickly as possible. However, Ms. Perone said there are no job guarantees. "There is great access to jobs in the region if students are motivated enough to persue them."

The Port Colborne Student Employment Centre can be reached at 834-7921, the Fort Erie Student Employment Centre can be reached at 871-0503, the Niagara Falls Student Employment Centre can be reached at 356-7930, the Welland Student Employment Centre can be reached at 732-1315, while the St. Catharines Student Employment Centre can be reached at 688-3663. The centres are open weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

From journalism to politics

By MARK DENIS
Staff Writer

Shaun Smith, 27, a 1985 graduate of the Journalism-Print program at Niagara College, is working as a legislative assistant for Shirley Coppen, chief government whip of the New Democratic Party at Queen's Park in Toronto.

Mr. Smith, a former Fonthill resident, worked four years at the Guardian Express in Welland after graduation, which is how he learned about the possibilities of working for the provincial government.

As an NDP government employee, Mr. Smith's duties include writing speeches given in the provincial legislature, investigating concerns of constituents and researching legislation.

"The journalism program's broad base of subjects, particularly politics and history, have prepared me and left me in good stead," he said in a telephone interview.

He said working in the political system "gives you an appreciation of work put in by staff and elected members of government."

Mr. Smith is living in Mississauga and hopes to maintain his position at Queen's Park for the next five years or as long as Ms. Coppen remains in office.

"Working at Queen's Park gives you a broad spectrum of experience while meeting new people and staying alert to new opportunities," he said.

Deficit may go up

Continued from page 1

happen to provide the extra funding from the government, then we will choose that route," he said.

Mr. Bessey said technology programs, because of graduate demand, and northern Ontario colleges, because of location, receive more money. "The entire system (of government funding) is under review and being changed. We fear it will have a negative effect," he said.

Because of "slip funding," the college receives no grant money for at least two years after submitting for new program costs or increasing enrolment levels.

"Our expansion plans should move us into a more favorable position with the present structure of the grants system," Mr. Baril said. "We've been through a tough period. Now is the time to start resolving our economic situation."

At this time last year, the college's operating deficit was about $300,000. It now stands at $1.4 million and could increase to about $2.4 million by the end of the 1991-92 school year.

"To make money, we must spend money," Mr. Bessey said, adding "not all (the $1.4 million) was spent . . . we lost some."

"We tried cutting a few years ago to save money," he said, "but cutting is only a shortsighted measure."

"I agree with the expansion policy. It's going to pay off in the long run. In about three years we'll erase the deficit and balance the budget," Mr. Baril said.

See related story on the purchase of a new St. Catharines site on page 5.

Rising costs

Continued from page 1

dent participation," Lou said.

"I'm hopeful this will make college students more sociable and that we will get bigger and better numbers for activities sponsored by the Student Administrative Council, especially Shinerama and other activities that help raise money for important charitable organizations," Dale Deloughtery, newly-elected Student Administrative Council vice-president external, said.

"I am really pleased with the way the centre is shaping up and it's time the students have a place they can call their own," Donna Flutur, Student Administrative Council office manager, said. "If this centre doesn't get the students together socially at Niagara College, then I feel that nothing will," she said.

"We are taking things one little step at a time. Even though we are starting small, we have high hopes," Lou said.

The student centre includes office space, a light and sound system, big screen televisions, furnishings such as kitchen equipment, wheelchair accessible bathroom facilities, pool tables (costing $1 a game) and computerized bar equipment.

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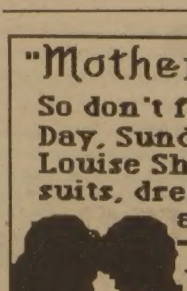

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